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ST. AMBROSE IN THE DONJON.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY EMMA ALICE BROWNE.

Like a star my soul shall shine
With her triumphs over earth,
When her future fate divine
Blossoms into newer birth,
Far across the vale of tombs,
Far beyond all mortal strife,
Where God's love perpetual blooms
On the endless hills of life,
Crowned with one eternal day
That shall never fade away.

What if Earth despise me now?—
What if no one judge aright?—
And I wear on burning brow
Bitter wreaths of wrong and spite?
There is rest and peace for me
Where the world's harm cometh not—
And my soul shall gloriously
Live when sorrow is forgot—
Dust and ashes to the sod—
Spirit safe at home with God!

On the world's rough cross of scorn
My pale youth was crucified—
I am weary and forlorn,
Bruised of soul, and fiercely tried—
Out of wretchedness and pain,
Oh! thou Jesus, crowned and risen,
Lead me to the light again,
Through the grave's unyielding prison—
Seal the stone, and at the door
Set thine Angel evermore!

With this wasted wine of youth
Sprinkle thou the barren sand,
That the splendors of thy truth,
Which have touched me like a brand,
Blossom round the feet of those
Who must tread this path of pain,
When this bleeding heart of woes
Long in silent dust hath lain.
By thy splendors and my pains,
For my losses give them gains!

They have cursed me—I forgive,
Feeling nobler for this strife.
I am dying—they shall live,
But the death comes well as life!
E'en as thou the scoff and bruise
In the ancient days forgave,
They who blindly me abuse
Pity thou—oh, God! and save.
Give them roses for my thorns—
For my nights unclouded morns!

Maryland.

THE REVENGE.

(CONCLUDED.)

"Miss Manstein," said he, at length, "you may think this levity becoming, but—good heavens! if these are the manners of the girls of the present day!—Four years ago, when I mixed with the world—Oh, Lavinia, Lavinia, how different art thou!"

"Very different, indeed, I flatter myself!" replied Sophia, in a sarcastic tone.

"What!—well—I—I suppose you saw her at D———, did you not?"

"I did."

"And did you ever see so beautiful a creature?"

"I saw her—perhaps—I believe, to a great disadvantage," replied Sophia, with some hesitation; for she had not courage to declare her real sentiments. The truth was, that when she beheld Lavinia, the long-envied object of Stainforth's affection, her heart throbbed with pleasure and with pride, for she could not be blind to her own superiority in youth and in charms; and she almost hoped that were Stainforth to behold her now, nay, she was *sure* that she would not be as formidable a rival as she had been; for the cares of a family, late hours, and other circumstances, had faded the beauty of Lavinia, and brought on a sort of premature decay to her charms; for her beauty was merely that of regular features and brilliant complexion; and time, that adds to the charms of character and expression, where character and expression already exist, leaves nothing behind in insipid and unmeaning faces but traces of its destructive power and the forerunners of age; as the fairy sprite, Robin Goodfellow, is supposed to give nothing but pinches and bruises when he visits the idle and undeserving; but leaves with the worthy, fairy-favors, and no unpleasing tokens of his visit.

"I am glad I have seen her," said Sophia, to herself, as she gazed on Lavinia. But when Lavinia, in whom Stainforth's high reputation had awakened her former esteem for him, beheld Sophia, and was told that she lived constantly with him and his mother, it is very certain that she did not feel at all glad to have seen *her*.

But to return to Stainforth, who heard Sophia's answer with something approaching resentment.

"Not see her to advantage! Perhaps she might be unwell, and her color might not be so high as usual."

"But she has no color at all."

"Impossible! she had a bloom like the morning."

"And four years ago she was in the morning of life," replied Sophia.

"And is still; you do not mean to insinuate that she is old, Miss Manstein."

"N—no; thirty is not old."

"Thirty! she is not five-and-twenty!"

"No!—well, one must not always trust to appearances!"

"But supposing the splendor of her youth is gone by, there must still be a softness, a sweetness in her expression, a roundness of contour in her form, peculiarly her own, which must have struck you with admiration."

"Her expression is certainly mild, and even girlish; but as to roundness of contour, I think I never saw a more meagre woman in my life."

"Impossible! Why, she had once all the bloom and roundness of health and youth!"

"Yes; but when health and youth leave a person, why should you suppose them generous enough to leave some of their richest possessions behind?"

"Well;—but her teeth and eyes must still remain, whatever else may have departed?"

"The samples of the former that remain certainly give one a favorable idea of what the rest have been; and her eyes are really brilliant still."

"Well, but you were charmed with her manner, no doubt;—you liked her, I conclude?"

"No, indeed, I did not."

"No! unkind Sophia! I should have liked any man who had been so long dear to you."

"Indeed!" cried Sophia, sighing, not pleased or flattered at all by this observation, though he thought it a very *kind* one. "But how could I like a woman who had been the cause of so much unhappiness to you?" cried she.

"Nay, all my wonder is, how you could help liking her; for not to talk of her beauty—"

"No—we had better not; we should never speak ill of the dead, you know."

"Upon my word, cousin Sophia, you provoke me beyond my patience; you have often complained, my mother says, that I do not consider you enough as a woman; but on my word, ma'am, you will never have to complain of me in this respect again; as the way in which you have spoken of the once, and always, beautiful Lavinia, convinces me that you are *indeed* a woman, a very, very woman."

"Thank you, sir—thank you," replied Sophia; "then I find I shall owe one obligation of some importance to my want of taste, or want of candor, as you choose to call it; and you will in future, I hope, treat me with the respect due to a woman of my venerable years, for I am twenty to-morrow."

"Twenty! you *twenty*, Miss Manstein! I thought you were not seventeen! How time runs away!"

"It does indeed; and if it would run away *alone* it would not signify, but it always carries something away with it; as, for instance, your Lavinia's beauty."

"What! are you attacking that again; and, contrary to your own maxim, disturbing the quiet of the dead? But what—I—I suppose—perhaps you think yourself handsomer than Lavinia?"

"Perhaps I do," replied Sophia, modestly struggling with truth, and suffusing her cheek with a brighter crimson, while a playful and arch smile dimpled her mouth.

"You do? mighty fine, indeed!" replied Stainforth, looking up at her with astonishment; and then for the first time he might really be said to have gazed on Sophia since she had come down dressed for conquest. "Well—well," said Stainforth, "now I look at you, I do not think you flattered yourself as much as I thought you did. If you had only said you thought yourself as handsome as Lavinia, you would certainly have spoken truth."

"Do you mean what you say?" said Sophia, blushing with surprise and pleasure, and bending her bright eyes to the ground with becoming modesty.

"I always mean what I say," replied Stainforth; "you are as handsome as Lavinia ever was! Nay, dear girl, you may believe me, indeed you may;" and as he said this, he took her hand, and was resuming, though with some timidity, the usual familiarity with which he was accustomed to seat her on his knee; but Sophia, assuming all the dignity of a decorous young woman, disengaging herself from him, immediately exclaimed:

"No, sir, if you please, you might take such liberties with a mere girl, but remember that I have convinced you that I am a *woman*—a *very, very woman*."

Stainforth blushed; and, bowing, promised to keep at a respectful distance, and then added, gazing with great fondness in her face, "But do you in your conscience think, Sophia, that I have found out only that you are a *very* woman? are you sure that I have not also discovered you are a *very charming* woman?"

Perhaps there is no woman, possessed of observation, and particularly interested in making use of it, who is not aware of the exact moment when the expression in the eyes of a man, as he gazes on her, ceases to be that of affection only, and assumes that of affection mixed with passionate admiration. And Sophia was well aware, though perhaps Stainforth himself was not, that such a moment was discoverable in the eyes of her cousin as he gazed on her blushing face. The moment was also come, when her power of continuing a pert, vivacious, and gay conversation, was entirely vanished. While he was indifferent, she could appear indifferent too, and be saucily loquacious; but when she had reason to believe that happier prospects were opening upon her, choked with emotion, and terrified lest Stainforth should behold the extent of it, she knew not what to do—what to say; when Madame Stainforth unexpectedly entered and relieved her from her embarrassment; for running to meet her, with a faltering voice, but affecting extreme gaiety, she exclaimed,

"Only think, dear aunt! Augustus has paid me such a compliment! He says I am as handsome as ever Lavinia was!"

"And no great compliment, I think," replied Madame Stainforth; "had he said much handsomer than ever she was, he would have been nearer the truth. But whether you are handsomer than Lavinia or not, is a matter of no importance whatever; but it is of importance to you, that in mind and heart you are certainly her superior, whatever my infatuated son may think of Madame Waldorf; for you would not, like her, have been contented to feel a preference only for the man whom you consented to marry; you would not have entered into so solemn a union without the consciousness of feeling an attachment proof against all trials. Nor would you for one fault, occasioned too by love for you, have given up, without many a long and painful struggle, a man whose only crime was loving you too well; but had filial piety conquered faithful affection, I am sure you would never in one little month after the rupture with your lover, have given your hand to the man who had destroyed both his fame and his happiness."

"I would have *died* sooner; yet my cousin wonders I was not charmed with Lavinia! though, I must own, she courted my acquaintance and had I not considered her as the enemy of his peace, I might perhaps have returned her advances with cordiality."

"Enough—enough on this subject," said Stainforth, and he suddenly quitted the room.

His observation and his abrupt departure alarmed Sophia, for she feared that he was seriously displeased; but her aunt quieted her fears by telling her that it was the first time she had ever ventured to express to her son her disapprobation of Lavinia in so pointed a manner, and she thought he had borne it so well that there was no doubt but that the attachment which he now felt for her was merely the result of habit, and the creature of imagination; and that she did not despair of seeing it replaced by another and a better-founded attachment.

"No, no—indeed I doubt," replied Sophia, "that Lavinia is a formidable rival still; though to be sure her *beauty* is now the mere creature of Stainforth's imagination. You know, dear aunt, that one very often sees a face in the fire so very distinctly that one fancies everybody else must see it too; but when you call another person to gaze on it, it is impossible to make him see it, whatever trouble you take; and, indeed, dear aunt, Madame Waldorf's charms, which Augustus sees so plainly, are now only a face in the fire, which is visible only to one person."

"I believe you, Sophia; for I know you are above the meanness of envy, and are even capable of doing justice to a rival."

"I hope I am, though Augustus does not think me so; but I wish he could see Lavinia, and then I am sure he would own that I am not envious or unjust. I remember that an old Jacobite English lady, with whom I was a great favorite, told me once as a great favor, that she would show me the picture of the dear, sweet, beautiful Pretender, which she always wore at her heart. She did so; and I, while expecting to see a lovely blooming face, beheld nothing but a piece of ivory, with scarcely a feature or a tint remaining! 'What!' exclaimed I, thoughtlessly enough, 'is this pale-faced spectre your idol? Ah, he is truly a pretender indeed!' cried I, and the old lady never forgave me. Now to me Lavinia appears a mere pretender also, and Stainforth my old lady; and with equal carelessness have I spoken my sentiments of *his* idol; and if he should never forgive me, dear aunt, what would become of me!"

As she said this she looked up at Madame Stainforth with her eyes filled with tears, and saw hers fixed on something behind her, while she, smiling, exclaimed,

"Answer for yourself, Augustus: has Sophia mortally offended you?"

The truth was, Stainforth had, unobserved, returned into the room, and heard all that passed; and being convinced that Sophia, who awaited his answer with trembling impatience, had spoken only what appeared to her the truth respecting the change in Lavinia, he felt no sensation but of kindness and admiration towards her; and what was of more consequence to Sophia's peace, had she been conscious of it, her two personifications of Lavinia's present appearance had had their effect; and, spite of his boasted constancy, Stainforth felt her once glowing image replaced in his fancy by a faded miniature. Suddenly, while he was endeavoring to picture her to his eager gaze in all her pristine charms, the image instantaneously vanished, like the shapes in a magic-lantern; and this colorless miniature portrait was substituted for the blooming Lavinia; while present in reality to his view was a lovely, animated, warm-hearted girl, in all the bloom and untamed vivacity of early youth. It is not therefore to be wondered at that Stainforth soon began to leave off returning to his studies after dinner; but Sophia had still the mortification of observing that Stainforth appeared at breakfast in complete and unbecoming dishabille. During breakfast-time, one day, Sophia remarked, with gravity, that she had now learnt to understand completely, and deeply pity the state of a deposed monarch.

"And why have you only *now* learnt to feel for a deposed monarch?" cried Stainforth.

"Because it is only now that I feel I am one myself."

"What mean you, Sophia?"

"I mean that at D—— I was a queen, and had subjects who offered me their homage daily, and who smiled when I smiled, frowned when I frowned, and watched my looks as if on them hung their fortune; but here I am without a court, and without a subject; and my smile and my frown are equally unimportant."

"Do you think what you say, Sophia? but who were these subjects?"

"Oh, persons of importance, and merit too. A president, two counsellors, a baron, a colonel in the army, a French diplomat, and an English charge d'affaires."

"And did you," cried Stainforth, very gravely, "like any one of this army of lovers in particular?"

"Oh, yes!"

"Indeed! And—and, did you—I mean do you intend to favor any one of them?"

"Oh, yes!"

"Sophia, are you in earnest?" said Stainforth, taking her hand and looking anxiously in her face.

"Why not? You know, dear cousin, that you sent me to D—— on purpose to get a husband; having first civilly hinted that you wanted to get rid of me."

"I send you to D—— to get a husband! I want to get rid of you! I want to exclude the only sunshine of my existence!"

"Well, Augustus, I am sure I thought you were resolved to shut the shutters, and keep out your poor little sun entirely, else I am sure I should not have—"

"Have what—engaged yourself?"

"No, I should not have regretted so much my inability to make a decided choice."

"A *decided* choice! but you have made a choice, you say; you *like* these men whom you mention?"

"Yes."

"But which of them do you prefer?"

"Oh, I like them all equally."

"But *one* you say you mean to favor?"

"No—I mean to favor them *all*."

"How?"

"Yes—by *refusing* them all; for I should hate myself were I capable of giving my hand without my heart; and my heart *rejects* them all equally."

"Dear, dear girl!" cried Stainforth, kissing her hand, "then you do not mean to leave us?"

"No, not if I might but retain some shadow of royalty here."

"As how?"

"Why, I have been used to see men not presume to enter into my presence without being well shaved, well combed, and well dressed; but you—the only man here, and consequently the only thing I can expect for a subject—you come into my presence as ill and negligently dressed as those odious Jacobins were when they entered into the presence of their imprisoned king."

"Well, well, I will be more punctilious; but what shall I do?"

"First, you shall shave every day: secondly, you shall wear clean linen every day, and tie your cravat like other people; and lastly, you shall present me with a nosegay every morning at breakfast, and sometimes with a copy of verses."

"But I can't write verses; and I scarcely know one flower from another, except that pretty little flower which is called 'Forget-Me-Not;' and that I should not have known, perhaps, if I had not so often seen it enamelled and painted on the shirt-pins or bracelets of parted or parting lovers."

"No matter; I do not require you to work impossibilities, and be as great a botanist as S———h, that pleasant English traveller, whom my aunt saw at D———, some years ago, and admired so much; but nosegays you must cull, and verses you must write."

"Well,—but show me some verses, as models."

"I will show you some verses, not written to me, but which, as they express a true passion, I should like to have inspired."

"Indeed! what, whether you loved the writer of them or no?"

"Oh, but a lover like him ought to be loved, and must be loved; as one of the greatest female writers in England, or indeed in any country, says, 'love must owe its origin to love!' or, as one of the first of Englishmen says,

"'Though beauty may dazzle, 'tis kindness that warms.'

"'As on suns in the winter with pleasure we gaze,
But feel not their warmth though their splendor we praise;
So beauty our just admiration may claim,
But love, and love only, the heart can inflame.'

For do you think, Augustus, that any woman in her senses would think of loving a man before she was assured that he loved her? Can a woman do it, and *ought* she to do it?"

How Sophia's heart beat while she awaited Stainforth's answer.

"Can she; ought she to do it? most certainly," replied Stainforth, "if the object be a deserving one. I too will quote an English poet, who says:

"'The chastest maid may own a well-placed flame;
Not loving first, but loving wrong, is shame.'

And if a man have talents, temper, and virtues, I should honor the woman who placed her affections on him, even though not sure of being loved by him in return."

Sophia was so agitated while he said this, that Stainforth suspected she was conscious of loving some one who did not love her; and wholly unconscious that he was the object of her preference, he thought it must be the author of the verses which she had offered to show him; and turning very pale, he asked her if the lord whom she had just mentioned was deserving, by his qualities, of the regard which she seemed so willing to bestow on him. Sophia instantly understood his suspicions, and saw the change of countenance which they had produced; and, in a tumult of joyful and grateful emotion, she set Stainforth's heart at ease, by saying that she knew nothing of the gentleman in question, but through the medium of that song. Then, giving it to Stainforth, he read as follows:

SONG.

Yes—though we've loved so long, so well,
Imperious duty bids us part;
But though thy breast with anguish swell,
A pang more lasting tears my heart.

My grief is dumb—loquacious thine;
The mournful board I sacred keep;
Thou seekest crowds—alone I pine;
Mine eyes are dry—but thine can weep.

Then, sure, whate'er thy lips have vow'd,
A stronger sorrow sways my soul;
For shallow streams run bright and loud,
Deep waters darkly silent roll.

"Well," said Stainforth, "this song is not excellent enough to frighten me from entering the lists with the writer of it; and I will endeavor (no difficult task) to eclipse the little merit it has; and in the meanwhile you may expect from me a beard well shaved, a neckcloth well tied, clean linen, and a nosegay every day."

He promised this, and he performed it. But to write verses to Sophia was a far more difficult task than he had imagined. He began, indeed; but some lines he feared were too impassioned, others too cold; perhaps, too, when he thought of Sophia, his heart was so full of emotion that his ideas were confused; however, he wrote two stanzas at last with great effort; and then, having written them out in his very best hand, he the next minute threw them into the fire, from the dread that they would appear in her eyes, contemptible, when compared to the song which she had admired. "No," said he to himself—"no, I cannot bear to run the risk of incurring her contempt; and to attempt to write verses, and write bad ones, would certainly sink me in her estimation. No—she may not admire, but she shall not despise me." Therefore, he disobeyed Sophia's commands; and the nosegays remained unaccompanied by verses. But Sophia, who perfectly understood the cause of his disobedience from the way in which he excused himself, was more gratified by it than she would have been by fifty songs written by him in her praise.

But the pleasing progress of hope in the bosom of Sophia, and of a second love in that of Stainforth, was suddenly and painfully suspended, by his having most unexpectedly an opportunity of gratifying a more pernicious and equally powerful passion—that of revenge; that revenge, too, for which he had pined through many a joyless year. Instantly this one ever-restless and voracious passion swallowed up every other. From the spy whom he had long set over the actions of Waldorf, he heard that he was completely ruined; that his whole fortune, and that of the baron, were spent; that he was deeply involved in debts; and that, the baron's friend being dead, his interest with the government was over, and the place, Waldorf's only support, was taken from him, and would be given to the applicant most favored by persons in power.

When Stainforth heard this narration of his enemy's distresses—a narration which, knowing Waldorf's extravagance, he had for years anxiously expected—he fell on his knees, and fervently ejaculated: "My God, I thank thee! I shall not now die unrevenged; but the man who cruelly betrayed and disgraced me, the woman who heartlessly forsook and forgot me, shall learn at length to repent and bemoan their cruelty!"

"You shock, you terrify me, Augustus!" cried Sophia; "can you rejoice in these poor unfortunates' distresses?"

"I do from my soul!"

"Then I could almost find it in my heart to *hate* you, Augustus."

"Your feeling is right and natural, Sophia, and so is mine; but I have no time to argue with you; I will away to D———, I will return to that city which I had resolved never to see more, unless I visited it to take my vengeance on Waldorf;—the time is come, and I fly to my revenge!"

Then running out of the room, he gave the necessary orders, and in a few hours his carriage was at the door.

"For mercy's sake, let us accompany him!" cried Sophia to her aunt. "Let us not leave him to the unsoothed, unmitigated indulgence of his passions."

And Madame Stainforth approving her proposition, Augustus consented to it, and they all three set off for D———.

Stainforth went out as soon as they arrived at his long deserted house; and Sophia awaited his return in a degree of trembling, anxious impatience, which was rendered more painful by the *sang froid* which Madame Stainforth preserved on the occasion. But Stainforth did not return till midnight, and then retired to his room without seeing them; so her impatient curiosity remained unsatisfied. The next morning he went out before breakfast, and remained out all day; and Sophia was almost ill with anxiety and vexation. But the succeeding day her curiosity was only too fully gratified; for Stainforth returned to dinner, and, throwing himself into his mother's arms, he rapturously exclaimed:

"My revenge will now be complete! Waldorf is soliciting to be restored to his place, and several others are applying for it; but *I*, who have a claim on the government unurged as yet, *I* will apply for it myself, sure to carry it off from Waldorf and any competitor. Nay, more; I have bought up all his debts, and he has now no creditor but myself; therefore he is completely in my power, and my triumph is consummated."

As he said this he turned to look at Sophia, and saw her nearly fainting on the sofa. He instantly ran to her assistance; but she repulsed him vehemently.

"Away!" she cried; "I renounce you!—I hate you! I despise you!"

"Indeed!"

"Yes—or rather I will endeavor from this moment to do so; cruel, malignant, revengeful man! But I will go this moment to poor Madame Waldorf; I will tell her what you are about to do, and I will bring her hither, convinced that when you see her you will no longer have power to keep your odious intentions."

"You are mistaken; I have seen her, and have still kept them. In disguise I watched her, her husband, her father, and her children last night as they walked on foot to take possession of their miserable habitation in the suburbs; and oh! how changed was the appearance of them all! But Lavinia! oh, my Sophia! she is no more to be compared to you now—no, nor do I believe that she ever was worthy of the slightest comparison in beauty to you!"

"Wretch!" replied Sophia, (shocked to feel her eyes sparkle in spite of herself,) "think not to flatter me into approving your odious measures. But did you not feel tortures at seeing their distress?"

"No, from the bottom of my soul I enjoyed it!"

"I can endure the sight of you no longer!" exclaimed Sophia, sobbing violently; "but I will go this instant to the poor Lavinia; I will myself now for what I said against her. I will go to her, and offer her all the little I can bestow; and, if she requires it, love you again." So saying, she left the and immediately procured a guide to the tation of the humbled Waldorfs.

In the meanwhile Stainforth was not idle, and his endeavors were crowned with such success, that the place was given to him as soon as he asked it; nay, more—a fine commodious house, very handsomely fitted up, which was then vacant, and for sale, was thought by Stainforth a proper and necessary appendage to the high post which he had obtained; and the government agreed to purchase it immediately, and let it always in future go along with the appointment, which Stainforth was to keep at pleasure, or dispose of according to his own judgment. When Sophia, almost broken-hearted, returned from her charitable visit, she found Stainforth in the highest spirits, for he had gained his point; and after binding Sophia by a solemn promise not to reveal to the Waldorfs what he was going to say, he told her Waldorf's place was his, and that the house which the government had granted him to live in while he held it, he was going to take possession of immediately.

"Hear me, Stainforth," replied Sophia, every nerve within her trembling; "I have lately thought that I was not indifferent to you."

"Indifferent! I love you so fondly, that I consider this as the happiest time of my life; for I think I am not indifferent to you; and with my revenge and my love both gratified, I—"

"Hold, sir! if you gratify the one, never, never shall you gratify the other. The moment of my weakness is past; I have loved you, sir, even when I despaired of ever being beloved again."

"Is it possible!" cried Stainforth, dropping on one knee, and seizing her hand in a transport of joy and surprise.

"Yes," continued Sophia, "I loved you ere I knew what love was; but though I thought my love was hopeless, I did not blush for my passion, because the virtues of the object seemed such as to make it a virtue in me to love him. And I too, felt and thought like you, that, 'not loving first, but loving wrong, is shame;' but now—now that I see your heart is so unfeeling, your nature so malignant, that you can trample on the fallen, and revenge yourself on an enemy on whom fortune has already revenged you, by decking yourself in his spoils, and making yourself his only creditor, in order to make him lie at your mercy, and enable you perhaps to drag him from his wife and family to jail—I renounce you forever; and I shall hate and despise myself if henceforward I ever feel for you anything but aversion." She then left the room, shut herself into her own apartment, and refusing the next day even to see her aunt, because she did not seem to enter into her feelings, she spent the chief of her time during the two succeeding days with Lavinia and her family.

At length Stainforth took possession of his new habitation; and Sophia, but for the absolute command of her aunt, who was as yet her guardian, would not have deigned to accompany them thither; while her pale cheek and languid eye sufficiently indicated the struggles of her soul.

The next morning Stainforth informed Sophia that he hoped she would do him the favor to stay and receive some friends of his, whom he had sent for and expected every moment.

"What friends?"

"The Waldorfs."

"Monster!" cried she, "have you then sent for them to insult them!"

"I have sent for them to *reproach* them."

"And I have loved this man!" cried Sophia,

clasping her hands in agony. "But they will not come, I am sure they will not."

"Yes they will; I desired my employers to keep my nomination secret for a few days; there[illegible]s they do not know the name of Wal[illegible] successor, and they are only sent for to come hither on business of importance."

"And do you think I will stay to witness their humiliation, and your ungenerous, pagan triumph?"

"Miss Manstein," said her aunt, gravely, "less violence would be more becoming a young woman; and for the present, however you may hereafter wish to separate yourself from us, it is my pleasure that you restrain your feelings, and stay where you are."

Sophia then seated herself in perturbed silence, and soon after she heard the baron Sternheim and Monsieur and Madame Waldorf announced; while Stainforth, his lips quivering with passion, and his whole frame trembling with strong emotion, leaned against the mantel-piece to keep himself from falling. On seeing him, the astonished visitors started, and would have retreated; but Stainforth desired them to enter and sit down. "It is *my house*," said he, "therefore I have a right to ask you to be seated."

"Your house!" cried Waldorf, starting; "are you then my successor? you my creditor too? for I find you have made yourself my sole creditor; therefore I am every way at your mercy, and you triumph over me! Well, sir, are the bailiffs ready? for I suppose I am to be hurried to prison."

Here Lavinia shrieked, and, throwing herself into Sophia's arms, conjured her to intercede for her; while the baron, in a mournful but manly tone, conjured Stainforth to recollect that *he* had not injured him.

"Not injured me! Was it no injury not only to receive instantly my resignation of your daughter's hand, without making any candid allowance for the error *of a young and impassioned man*, but to bestow her immediately on the perfidious friend to whom my disgrace was owing? But what say *you*, sir? Perhaps you never injured me?"

"Oh, yes," cried Waldorf, "and my heart has ever since reproached me."

"And so it ought, for I trusted you as I would have done an angel from heaven; and in return for my confidence you inflicted on me misery and disgrace. I have pined through many a long and joyless year, but now the moment of revenge is come. Baron Sternheim, [illegible]n I saw you last, I was at your feet, a humbled and self-convicted wretch, a detected, trembling liar; and, guilty as my once dearest friend appeared to me, I felt myself even inferior to him; and loathing the sight of every face, because I was ashamed to look my fellow-citizens in the face, I flew to hide my disgrace in the solitude of the country, resolved that I would never return to my native city, and never behold your face or that of Waldorf and Lavinia again, till I could do it with the dignity of virtue, and of a man restored to his own approbation. During my retirement you have probably heard my name—"

"Yes," cried the baron, "we have heard it blessed and honored."

"Yes," added Waldorf; "and so highly have I always thought of you, that if any one had told me you would have thus panted for revenge on me, would thus have labored to obtain it, and would also have sent for me to insult me with your triumph, and see you enjoying the distinction once my own, I would have told them they were base calumniators, and that I knew you had a soul above such meanness."

"And so would I," exclaimed Lavinia.

"I thank you both," cried Stainforth, his lip quivering and his voice faltering as he spoke. "But, believe me, this is the only completely happy moment which I have known for years. True, I have sent for you to witness my triumph; true, I have sent for you to complete the revenge for which I have panted for years; but it is to witness my triumph, not over you, but over myself; to see me complete not the revenge of a mean, malignant enemy, but that of a virtuous man, and of a sincere Christian! Waldorf, the place you held, and this house, now become an appendage to it, are mine, to keep or bestow, according as my judgment and feelings dictate; and I bestow them on you; nay, I solicited them, in order to secure them yours; and when I thus hold out my arms to you, and claim you once more as the friend of my heart, will you reproach me for making myself your only creditor?"

To paint the various emotions that actuated every one present, is an impossible task.—Waldorf precipitated himself into his friend's embrace, and then sunk at his feet almost fainting from complicated feelings; while Sophia leaned on his shoulder, and with difficulty exclaimed—

"How could you terrify and distress me so cruelly?"

Madame Stainforth's feelings were the most gentle, for she had been all along in the secret. Lavinia sobbed out her joy in Waldorf's arms; and the baron, tears trickling down his venerable cheek, wrung Stainforth's hand, unable to say a word; while Stainforth, returning the pressure of his hand, exclaimed—

"Now, baron, I can look you in the face again!"

"Now, Stainforth, that I am able to speak," cried Waldorf, "let me inform you of a circumstance of which, while expecting to feel the effects of your resentment, I was too proud to inform you. The baron and myself never disclosed to any one the cause which broke off your marriage with Lavinia, and we guarded your honor from the slightest taint, as carefully as we should have guarded our own."

Stainforth was affected, greatly affected; and he saw, by this generous attention of Waldorf and the baron, all his causes for uneasiness removed at once.

"But dear, dear Augustus," cried Sophia, "why did you keep me in ignorance of your intentions? why expose me to the horror and agony of doubting for a moment the excellence of your heart?"

"The agony which you experienced," replied Madame Stainforth, gravely, "was a just punishment on you for having dared to suppose Stainforth even for a moment capable of malignant revenge."

"Blame her not," exclaimed Stainforth, "all has been as I wished. I was not sorry, my dear Sophia, to have an opportunity of proving the rectitude of your principles, and the reality of your love of what is right and just; and happy indeed must that lover be who has been able to prove beyond the power of doubt, that the object of his affection, however fondly she may be attached to him, is still more attached to generosity and virtue."

Little more need be said. Sophia and Stainforth, secure in the love and high principles of each other, lived peacefully and serenely together all their days. While Waldorf, Lavinia, and the baron never ceased to manifest that warm gratitude towards Stainforth, which they had been less than human not to feel. May such Rhymer as we have pictured take the place of the more ignoble passion which bears that name, in every manly breast.

THE END.

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1858.

All the Contents of THE POST are set up Expressly for it, and it alone. It is not a mere Reprint of a Daily Paper.

TERMS, &c.

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REJECTED COMMUNICATIONS.—We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. If the article is worth *preserving*, it is generally worth making a clean copy of.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Respectfully declined: "Silent Grief;" "Christmas."

S. M. Try again. There are false quantities in the rhythm—words omitted—rhymes repeated—and other defects.

TREMONT. The receipt we gave was from a foreign paper. What "*oil* of tartar" is, we do not know. It is not known in this country by that name—at least it is not in the Pharmacopœa.

ALBERT C—R. Your determination is creditable. Persevere writing for half-a-dozen years, publishing where you can, and see what will come of it.

E. Respectfully declined.

TO CHANCE READERS.

We call the attention of chance readers of THE POST to our Prospectus for Next Year in another column. They will see by reading it, we think, that they cannot do better than enroll themselves upon the long list of our subscribers. The **$1,680** story, by the distinguished author, MR. G. P. R. JAMES, will be of itself worth the price of the paper to club subscribers—Mr. James's last novel, LORD MONTAGU'S PAGE, is now selling in book form for $1,25. And then, besides, we design furnishing THREE STORIES from MARY HOWITT, a Series of BRILLIANT ARTICLES from GRACE GREENWOOD, a NOVELET by T. S. ARTHUR, &c., &c., &c. Add to these our MISCELLANEOUS and AGRICULTURAL Articles, the SELECTIONS from FOREIGN SOURCES, the FOREIGN and DOMESTIC NEWS, THE MARKETS, &c., &c., and our subscribers will have about TEN times the worth of their money. But see Prospectus.

ERRORS.—We endeavor to have our office business managed with great punctuality and exactness, but as—our clerks being mere mortal men, and not angels—there is always a possibility of mistakes, we would thank our subscribers to inform us *at once* when any errors occur, either in the number of papers sent to an individual or club, or in any other respect. And in cases where any number of the paper fails to come to hand, either through the fault of the mails, or of our clerks, we trust our subscribers will feel no delicacy in writing for the missing number. We shall always be most happy to accommodate them if we can.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL TIMES is a new religious paper, to be published weekly, by the American Sunday-School Union of this city. Professor John S. Hart is announced as the editor. Judging by the appearance of the first number, we should say that the new paper is one of the handsomest of the religious weeklies. Professor Hart's reputation as a writer and scholar ensures its being edited with ability.

☞ Has not the truth of the following couplet often suggested itself to those of our readers who love a good horse?

You may wash, you may re-wash your hands if you will,
But the scent of the stable will cling to you still.

We think there is something very like the above in one of Tom Moore's poems.

TO OUR EXCHANGES.—Our thanks are due to very many of our contemporaries, for the handsome manner in which they have called the attention of their readers to the PROSPECTUS OF THE POST for the coming year. In case the proper exchange fails to come to any of such, a letter stating the fact will receive immediate attention.

TENDENCY OF THE AGE.

In an elaborate review of Carlyle's Frederick the Great, the London Times has the subjoined remarks:

Mr. Carlyle has no faith in his age or his contemporaries; he is blind to the modern conditions of progress, and he turns from its complicated agencies in despair. His creed is the old superseded faith in individual efforts, and the superiority of units; he is insensible to the grandeur of social forces, and the increasing ease with which they work; he even questions their results, because they are wrought by a machinery which he has never studied and is unable to appreciate. As the true poet sings, "the individual withers, and the world is more and more;" but Mr. Carlyle, instead of accepting this tendency as the inevitable law or condition of progress, is irritated and querulous, or confused and alarmed, and rushes out in his shirt sleeves to call for a hero. For present occasions and "Latterday" wants he sees with disgust there is none on the beat. At the same time he is looking for some fatal catastrophe which ought to befall us, but which never happens—and for some "coming man" to avert it, but who never arrives, and for whom he remains sulkily waiting in the cold. In history only he finds consolation. There he meets with or fancies heroes *ad libitum*.

But we would suggest to the *Times*, that the end, for the present, of "the grandeur of social forces," in France for instance, is the "one man power," as embodied in Louis Napoleon.

We would also suggest that the course of events on this earth is apt to be from one extreme to its opposite; so that it is by no means improbable that the poet of fifty years to come, may have to chronicle that "the *individual* is more and more." Therefore Mr. Carlyle may be allowed to doubt that what may be justly called at present the "prevailing tendency," is, as the *Times* says, "the *inevitable* law or condition of progress." For our part, we are no believer in "inevitable laws of progress." Progress, as used in its general sense of *onward* progress, is no more "inevitable" in the case of a nation than of an individual—as the whole history of the world proves; because it is simply a history, so far, of the rise and *fall* of nations. "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted—if thou doest evil, sin (and death as the result) lieth at the door"—this is the only inevitable law of progress, upward or downward, and applies the same to men collectively and individually.

Even as to our own highly favored country,—in which Democracy and the "social forces" are supposed to be the most firmly and widely rooted—he would be a bold man, with the lights of history around him, who should say that the growth of the "one man power" into a one man despotism, was an absolute impossibility. Even President Buchanan, in a letter regretting his inability to be present at the recent Fort Duquesne celebration in Pittsburg, feels despondent enough to use such ominous language as the following:—

From the stand point at which we have arrived, the anxious patriot cannot fail, whilst reviewing the past, to cast a glance into the future, and to speculate upon what may be the condition of our beloved country when your posterity shall assemble to celebrate the second centennial anniversary of the capture of Fort Duquesne. Shall our *whole* country then compose one united nation, more populous, powerful and free than any other which has ever existed? Or will the Confederacy have been rent asunder and divided into groups of hostile and jealous States? Or may it not be possible that, ere the next celebration, all the fragments, exhausted by intermediate conflicts with each other, may have finally reunited and sought refuge *under the shelter of one great and overshadowing despotism?* * * * *

I shall assume the privilege of advancing years in referring to another growing and dangerous evil. In the last age, although our fathers, like ourselves, were divided into political parties which often had severe conflicts with each other, yet we never heard, until within a recent period, of the employment of money to carry elections. Should this practice increase until the voters and their Representatives in the State and National Legislatures shall become infected, *the fountain of free government will then be poisoned at its source, and we must end, as history proves, in a military despotism.* A Democratic Republic, all agree, cannot long survive, unless sustained by public virtue. When this is corrupted and the people become venal, there is a canker at the root of the tree of liberty which must cause it to wither and to die.

We instance this to show that others than a scholar and author like Mr. Carlyle—men whose whole lives have been passed in the practical duties of statesmanship—by no means regard it as an impossibility that "units" may again become superior, and override the "social forces." In fact, talk about "inevitable progress" as much as you choose, every sensible and well-informed man knows that, in the language of Mr. Buchanan, a Democratic Republic, unless sustained by public virtue, *must* end in a Despotism. And what an incentive this knowledge should be, in the minds of our public men, to a faithful and incorruptible discharge of all their duties, Legislative, Judicial, or Executive.

☞ Dr. Henry King, an English poet and divine, who lived in the seventeenth century, wrote a poem to his wife, in which occurs the following passage:—

'Tis true, with shame and grief I yield,
Thou like the vanne first took'st the field,
And gotten hast the victory
In thus adventuring to dye
Before me, whose more years might crave
A just precedence in the grave.
But hark! my pulse like a soft drum
Beats my approach, tells thee I come,
And slow howe'er my marches be,
I shall at last sit down by thee.

In the above, it will be noticed, Dr. King anticipated one of Longfellow's finest images in the "Psalm of Life:—"

Art is long and time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

We think the image is used with equal felicity by both poets.

THE SUPERLATIVE DEGREE.—Our friend Jones the other day, wishing to express the very highest degree of the superlative mood, hit the nail on the head exactly. He was conveying his opinion of the fibbing abilities of a certain Baron Munchausen of his acquaintance.—"Lie!" said he, "lie? why he will lie like a New York editor about the circulation of his paper!" Could the force of language go further?

WEALTH OF SONORA.—Sonora must be something of an earthly paradise, to judge from the letter of a recent writer. He says:—

"Although its surface is extremely mountainous, still, intersecting these ranges, are broad and fertile valleys, well watered with never-failing springs, and wooded with superb forests.

"Here, growing side by side, may be found the productions of the torrid and temperate zones—fields of wheat and sugar-cane, and the vine and the orange tree may be seen blossoming at the same moment with the cotton plant, which is indigenous to the bottoms along the rivers Gila and San Pedro. *Every metal, precious and useful, has been thrown pell-mell from the burning furnace of the Sierra. Silver, as well as gold, is found in its virgin state, and in masses; the very marble is veined with gold, and the stones themselves sweat with quicksilver.*"

We wonder that those thirty or forty thousand Californians who recently took so much trouble to get a little gold at frosty Fraser river, should so completely have overlooked Sonora. A country where "every" precious metal has been thrown about "in masses" by that obliging "furnace of the Sierra," must be the very one for a short visit—and for longer visits in proportion. As to the stones that "sweat with quicksilver," (probably recollecting a little too vividly that "burning furnace" aforesaid,) in consideration of the "masses" of gold and silver "lying loose," one could not afford to give them trunk-room—though a man of a scientific turn of mind possibly might bring two or three home with him as specimens. And as to that "marble veined with gold," it would be a capital building material for a certain gentleman who enlightened the world, some years since, in the columns of the N. Y. Tribune, as to the practicability and cheapness of dissolving quartz, marble, &c., in water, and moulding them for building and ornamental purposes into any shape whatever. We should not wonder, in fact, if the quartz dissolver, and the writer of the above account of Sonora, were the same person. This quartz dissolver contemplated, we know, the use of the Californian article, in order that the gold extracted from the stone—like sunbeams from cucumbers—might add to the amount of the remuneration; and there was an affluence of imagination in the designs of the one, only to be equalled by that in the descriptions of the other.

THE DIFFERENCE.—It is amusing to note how much more apt the press of this country is to take umbrage at the conduct of England than of France. For instance, a letter has been recently received in Salem from Capt. Gillan, of the American brig Rockingham, dated Goree, on the West Coast of Africa, in which he says that a French war steamer at that place, having lost about twenty-five of her men from disease, had sent an armed boat to the Rockingham, and impressed one of her seamen, a Frenchman by birth. Now this brief statement has been passing the rounds of our contemporaries almost without note or comment—while if an English ship-of-war was accused of the same thing, by this time we should have had long leaders in half of the daily papers, demanding of the government at Washington instant attention to the case, and that an ample apology and reparation should be sternly insisted on, in case the facts really were as alleged. For our own part, we think that what is sauce for England should be sauce for France also—and that the case reported is one which demands the attention of the Administration. No vessel-of-war, of any nation, should be allowed to take a seaman from the deck of one of our vessels without the matter being brought at once to the serious consideration of the government to which the armed vessel belongs.

THE PENNSYLVANIA BANK CASE.—The trial of Messrs. Allibone and Newhall—one Ex-President, and the other Ex Director of the Bank of Pennsylvania—for a Conspiracy to Defraud the Stockholders of the Bank, is attracting great attention in this city. The evidence is so voluminous that we cannot pretend to give even a summary of it. A partial perusal of the proceedings thus far, has not tended to elevate our heretofore not very exalted opinion of the Law and its machinery. If no lawyer was ever allowed to open his lips in a Court, except for the purpose of questioning and cross-questioning the witnesses—and then the evidence be laid before a properly constituted jury, without other comment than that furnished by the Judge's charge, we are inclined to think it would be far better for the cause of Justice. Rogues, to be sure, might be sometimes convicted of stealing a horse when they had really stolen a mare—and thus injustice, in the *legal* sense, might be done them—but the community could well endure a little "injustice" of that character, in consideration of the blocking up of those numberless flaws and quibbles through which the guilty, who are able to employ the proper legal talent, so often manage to escape nowadays.

PRESENTATION TO PROFESSOR HART.—A splendid service of plate, consisting of a massive salver, a pitcher and a pair of goblets, richly chased and of a unique pattern, was presented on Friday, Dec. 3d, to Professor John S. Hart, L. L. D., by the professors and students of the Central High School, of this city, on the occasion of that gentleman's retirement from the office of Principal of the institution, an office which he has worthily filled for over sixteen years. The presentation was preceded by an appropriate address from Prof. McMurtrie; an eloquent valedictory poem from George A. Townsend, one of the pupils: and the reading of a series of resolutions by Joseph R. Rhoades, expressive of the sense of the school on the occasion. After which Joel Cook, Jr., presented the service of plate with a fitting address, and Prof. Hart replied with much felicity. The presentation took place in the lecture-room of the institution.

☞ There is still more of that everlasting Morphy and Staunton controversy. Why does not Morphy let Mr. Staunton alone—his object should be simply, as Gen. Taylor said about the bloodhounds, to discover his whereabouts, "not to worry him." You may lead a man to the chess board, but you cannot make him move afterwards.

BOARD OF HEALTH.—The number of deaths during the past week in this city was 203—Adults 104, and children 99.

THE XXXVTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

U. S. CAPITOL, Washington, December 6.

SENATE.—The galleries were well filled at an early hour this morning with a large number of ladies. Vice President Breckenridge, of Kentucky, called the Senate to order at noon. Forty-six Senators were present, and answered to their names. Absentees—Bayard, of Delaware, Bell, of Tennessee, Benjamin, of Louisiana, Crittenden, of Kentucky, Douglas, of Illinois, Houston, of Texas, Hunter, of Virginia, and Messrs. Johnson, of Tennessee, and Johnson, of Arkansas, Mallory, of Florida, Pugh, of Ohio, Sebastian, of Ark., Sumner, of Mass., Toombs, of Georgia, Yulee, of Fla., Bates, of Delaware, and Ward, of Texas—new Senator.

The oath of office was administered to Martin W. Bates, and he took his seat as Senator from Delaware.

The credentials of Watt Ward, of Texas, and Thomas L. Clingman, of North Carolina, were presented.

On motion of Mr Gwin, of California, the House was notified that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

On motion of Mr. Allen, a Committee was appointed to wait on the President.

Mr. Mason gave notice that he would on Tuesday call up the case of the Spanish schooner Armistead.

Messrs. Seward, Fessenden and others, objected that this claim should be singled out, and Mr. Seward called for a vote on the subject. It stood yeas 24, nays 19.

At ten minutes to 2 o'clock the Message from the President was received, and the reading of it immediately commenced.

When the message was read—

Mr. Bigler, of Pennsylvania, moved that twenty thousand extra copies be printed.

Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, said that if the President had confined himself to an exposition of the relations of the country, he would not have taken this opportunity to make comments. But the President had abused his constitutional prerogative, and gone out of his way to interpolate a history of Kansas not in accordance with the truth of history. He did agree most fervently in the President's gratitude that Providence had interposed at a critical juncture in our affairs. Nay, the teaching of Providence had been brought to the President's own State and town, and like Job, the good man, he feels the stripes yet blesseth the rod. Mr. Hale rejoiced that foreign affairs are so satisfactory, but he had expected the President would have enlightened the country as to the state of our relations with Austria, which required a new minister to be sent no immediately after the Pennsylvania election. Even as the English maiden, Florence Nightingale, who, with the plastic hand of female affection, tended the wounded, here we have the President in a similar character, hovering about the battle-field to pick up the wounded and send them to the Austrian hospital for recovery. Mr. Hale then went into further remarks on the subject of Kansas, the Amistad case, etc., and defended his party from the charge of being agitators.

The motion of Mr. Bigler was adopted.

Mr. Gwin, of California, gave notice that he intended to bring the Pacific Railroad bill up on to-morrow.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The galleries of the House are crowded and the members are gathered in confused groups on the floor of the House, engaged in earnest conversation. All appear to be in fine humor.

At noon the Speaker called the House to order.

After the delivery of a prayer, the roll was called. About two hundred members answered to their names.

On motion of Mr. Florence, of Pa., a resolution was adopted appointing a committee, in conjunction with that of the Senate, to wait on the President and inform him that a quorum of both Houses had assembled, and were ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make. The daily hour of the session was fixed at twelve o'clock. A proposition to select seats occasioned much confusion, but was adopted.

Every seat was vacated, and selections were made by each member, as his name, on a piece of paper, was drawn from the box.

Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania, introduced a bill to amend the act establishing the Court of Claims so as to permit creditors to sue in the District Court of the United States.

Mr. Curtis, of Iowa, introduced a bill for the construction of a Central Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Dewart, of Pennsylvania, asked leave to introduce a resolution instructing the Committee of Ways and Means to report a bill increasing the duty on coal and iron, and at the request of several gentlemen, included lead, sugar, and such other articles as need protection against foreign competition.

The objection being made, Mr. Dewart moved a suspension of the rules. Negatived—Yeas 102, nays 81, a majority of two-thirds being required.

The Speaker was authorized to appoint the various standing committees.

Mr. Florence, of Pa., from the Select Committee appointed to wait on the President, reported that the latter would immediately communicate his Message.

The Message was received, and the reading commenced at about 2 o'clock.

On motion, the President's Message was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed. Adjourned.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the
Senate and House of Representatives:

When we compare the condition of the country at the present day with what it was one year ago, at the meeting of Congress, we have much reason for gratitude to that Almighty Providence which has never failed to interpose for our relief, at the most critical periods of our history. One year ago, the sectional strife between the north and the south, on the dangerous subject of slavery, had again become so intense as to threaten the peace and perpetuity of the confederacy. The application for the admission of Kansas as a State into the Union, fostered this unhappy agitation, and brought the whole subject once more before Congress. It was the desire of every patriot that such measures of legislation might be adopted as would remove the excitement from the States, and confine it to the territory where it legitimately belonged. Much has been done, I am happy to say, towards the accomplishment of this object, during the last session of Congress.

The Supreme Court of the United States had previously decided that all American citizens have an equal right to take into the territories whatever is held as property under the laws of any of the States, and to hold such property there under the guardianship of the federal constitution, so long as the territorial condition shall remain.

This is now a well established position, and the proceedings of the last session were alone wanting to give it practical effect. The principle has been recognized, in some form or other, by an almost unanimous vote of both houses of Congress, that a territory has a right to come into the Union either as a free or a slave State, according to the will of a majority of its people. The just equality of all the States has thus been vindicated, and a fruitful source of dangerous dissension among them has been removed.

Whilst such has been the beneficial tendency of your legislative proceedings outside of Kansas, their influence has nowhere been so happy as within that territory itself. Left to manage and control its own affairs in its own way, without the pressure of external influence, the revolutionary Topeka organization and all resistance to the territorial government established by Congress, have been finally abandoned. As a natural consequence, that fine territory now appears to be tranquil and prosperous, and is attracting increasing thousands of immigrants to make it their happy home.

The past unfortunate experience of Kansas has enforced the lesson so often already taught, that resistance to lawful authority, under our form of government, cannot fail in the end to prove disastrous to its authors. Had the people of the territory yielded obedience to the laws enacted by their legislature, it would at the present moment have contained a large additional population of industrious and enterprising citizens, who have been deterred from entering its borders by the existence of civil strife and organized rebellion.

It was the resistance to rightful authority and the persevering attempts to establish a revolutionary government under the Topeka constitution, which caused the people of Kansas to commit the grave error of refusing to vote for delegates to the convention to frame a constitution, under a law not denied to be fair and just in its provisions. This refusal to vote has been the prolific source of all the evils which have followed. In their hostility to the territorial government, they disregarded the principle, absolutely essential to the working of our form of government, that a majority of those who vote—not the majority who may remain at home, from whatever cause—must decide the result of an election. For this reason, seeking to take advantage of their own error, they denied the authority of the convention thus elected to frame a constitution.

The convention, notwithstanding, proceeded to adopt a constitution unexceptionable in its general features, and providing for the submission of the slavery question to a vote of the people, which, in my opinion, they were bound to do, under the Kansas and Nebraska act. This was the all important question which had alone convulsed the territory, and yet the opponents of the lawful government, persisting in their first error, refrained from exercising their right to vote, and preferred that slavery should continue, rather than surrender their revolutionary Topeka organization.

A wiser and better spirit seemed to prevail before the first Monday of January last, when an election was held under the constitution. A majority of the people then voted for a governor and other State officers, for a member of Congress, and members of the State legislature. This election was warmly contested by the two political parties in Kansas, and a greater vote was polled than at any previous election. A large majority of the members of the legislature elect belonged to that party which had previously refused to vote. The anti-slavery party were thus placed in the ascendant; and the political power of the State was in their own hands. Had Congress admitted Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton constitution, the legislature might, at its very first session, have submitted the question to a vote of the people, whether they would or would not have a convention to amend the constitution, either on the slavery or any other question, and have adopted all necessary means for giving speedy effect to the will of the majority. Thus the Kansas question would have been immediately and finally settled.

Under these circumstances, I submitted to Congress the constitution thus framed, with all the officers already elected necessary to put the State government into operation, accompanied by a strong recommendation in favor of the admission of Kansas as a State. In the course of my long public life I have never performed any official act which, in the retrospect, has afforded me more heartfelt satisfaction. Its admission could have inflicted no possible injury on any human being, whilst it would, within a brief period, have restored peace to Kansas and harmony to the Union. In that event, the slavery question would ere this have been finally settled, according to the legally expressed will of a majority of the voters, and popular sovereignty would thus have been vindicated in a constitutional manner.

With my deep convictions of duty, I could have pursued no other course. It is true that, as an individual, I had expressed an opinion, both before and during the session of the convention, in favor of submitting the remaining clauses of the constitution, as well as that concerning slavery, to the people. But, acting in an official character, neither myself nor any human authority had the power to prejudge the proceedings of the convention, and declare the constitution which it had framed to be a nullity. To have done this, would have been a violation of the Kansas and Nebraska act, which left the people of the territory "perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States." It would equally have violated the great principle of popular sovereignty, as the foundation of our institutions, to deprive the people of the power, if they thought proper to exercise it, of confiding to delegates elected by themselves the trust of framing a constitution, without requiring them to subject their constituents to the trouble, expense and delay of a second election. It would have been in opposition to many precedents in our history, commencing in the very best age of the republic, of the admission of territories as States into the Union, without a previous vote of the people approving their constitution.

It is to be lamented that a question so insignificant when viewed in its practical effects on the people of Kansas, whether decided one way or the other, should have kindled such a flame of excitement throughout the country. This reflection may prove to be a lesson of wisdom and of warning for our future guidance. Practically considered, the question is simply whether the people of that territory should first come into the Union and then change any provision in their constitution not agreeable to themselves, or accomplish the very same object by remaining out of the Union and framing another constitution in accordance with their will? In either case the result would be precisely the same. The only difference in point of fact is, that the object would have been much sooner attained, and the pacification of Kansas more speedily effected, had it been admitted as a State during the last session of Congress.

My recommendation, however, for the immediate admission of Kansas, failed to meet the approbation of Congress. They deemed it wiser to adopt a different measure for the settlement of the question. For my own part, I should have been willing to yield my assent to almost any constitutional measure to accomplish this object. I, therefore, cordially acquiesced in what has been called the English Compromise, and approved the "act for the admission of the State of Kansas into the Union," upon the terms therein prescribed.

Under the ordinance which accompanied the Lecompton constitution, the people of Kansas had claimed double the quantity of public lands for the support of common schools, which had ever been previously granted to any State upon entering the Union; and also the alternate sections of land for twelve miles on each side of two railroads, proposed to be constructed from the northern to the southern boundary, and from the eastern to the western boundary of the State. Congress, deeming these claims unreasonable, provided, by the act of May 4, 1858, to which I have just referred, for the admission of the State on an equal footing with the original States, but "upon the fundamental condition precedent" that a majority of the people thereof, at an election to be held for that purpose, should, in place of the very large grants of public lands which they had demanded under the ordinance, accept such grants as had been made to Minnesota and other new States. Under this act should a majority reject the proposition offered them, "it shall be deemed and held that the people of Kansas do not desire admission into the Union with said constitution under the conditions set forth in said proposition." In that event, the act authorizes the people of the territory to elect delegates to form a constitution and State government for themselves, "whenever, and not before, it is ascertained by a census, duly and legally taken, that the population of said territory equals or exceeds the ratio of representation required for a member of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States." The delegates thus assembled "shall first determine by a vote whether it is the wish of the people of the proposed State to be admitted into the Union at that time, and, if so, shall proceed to form a constitution, and take all necessary steps for the establishment of a State government in conformity with the federal constitution." After this constitution shall have been formed, Congress, carrying out the principles of popular sovereignty and non-intervention, have left "the mode and manner of its approval or ratification by the people of the proposed State" to be "prescribed by law," and they "shall then be admitted into the Union as a State under such constitution thus fairly and legally made, with or without slavery, as said constitution may prescribe."

An election was held throughout Kansas, in pursuance of the provisions of this act, on the second day of August last, and it resulted in the rejection, by a large majority, of the proposition submitted to the people by Congress. This being the case, they are now authorized to form another constitution, preparatory to admission into the Union, but not until their number, as ascertained by a census, shall equal or exceed the ratio required to elect a member to the House of Representatives.

It is not probable, in the present state of the case, that a third constitution can be lawfully framed and presented to Congress by Kansas, before its population shall have reached the designated number. Nor is it to be presumed that, after their sad experience in resisting the territorial laws, they will attempt to adopt a constitution in express violation of the provisions of an act of Congress. During the session of 1856, much of the time of Congress was occupied on the question of admitting Kansas under the Topeka constitution. Again, nearly the

whole of the last session was devoted to the question of its admission under the Lecompton constitution. Surely it is not unreasonable to require the people of Kansas to wait, before making a third attempt, until the number of their inhabitants shall amount to ninety-three thousand four hundred and twenty. During this brief period, the harmony of the States, as well as the great business interests of the country, demand that the people of the Union shall not, for a third time, be convulsed by another agitation on the Kansas question. By waiting for a short time, and acting in obedience to law, Kansas will glide into the Union without the slightest impediment.

This excellent provision, which Congress have applied to Kansas, ought to be extended and rendered applicable to all territories which may hereafter seek admission into the Union.

Whilst Congress possess the undoubted power of admitting a new State into the Union, however small may be the number of its inhabitants, yet this power ought not, in my opinion, to be exercised before the population shall amount to the ratio required by the act for the admission of Kansas. Had this been previously the rule the country would have escaped all the evils and misfortunes to which it has been exposed by the Kansas question.

Of course it would be unjust to give this rule a retrospective application, and exclude a State which, acting upon the past practice of the government, has already formed its constitution, elected its legislature and other officers, and is now prepared to enter the Union.

The rule ought to be adopted, whether we consider its bearing on the people of the territories or upon the people of the existing States. Many of the serious dissentions which have prevailed in Congress and throughout the country, would have been avoided, had this rule been established at an earlier period of the government.

Immediately upon the formation of a territory, people from different States and from foreign countries rush into it, for the laudable purpose of improving their condition. Their first duty to themselves is to open and cultivate farms, to construct roads, to establish schools, to erect places of religious worship, and to devote their energies generally to reclaim the wilderness and to lay the foundations of a flourishing and prosperous commonwealth. If, in this incipient condition, with a population of a few thousand, they should prematurely enter the Union, they are oppressed by the burden of State taxation, and the means necessary for the improvement of the territory and the advancement of their own interests, are thus diverted to entirely different purposes.

The federal government has ever been a liberal parent to the territories, and a generous contributor to the useful enterprises of the early settlers. It has paid the expenses of their governments and legislative assemblies out of the common treasury, and thus relieved them from a heavy charge. Under these circumstances, nothing can be better calculated to retard their material progress, than to divert them from their useful employments, by prematurely exciting angry political contests among themselves, for the benefit of aspiring leaders. It is surely no hardship for embryo governors, senators, and members of Congress, to wait until the number of inhabitants shall equal those of a single congressional district. They surely ought not to be permitted to rush into the Union, with a population less than one-half of several of the large counties in the interior of some of the States. This was the condition of Kansas when it made application to be admitted under the Topeka constitution. Besides, it requires some time to render the mass of a population collected in a new territory, at all homogeneous, and to unite them on anything like a fixed policy. Establish the rule, and all will look forward to it and govern themselves accordingly.

But justice to the people of the several States requires that this rule should be established by Congress. Each State is entitled to two senators and at least one representative in Congress. Should the people of the States fail to elect a Vice President, the power devolves upon the Senate to select this officer from the two highest candidates on the list. In case of the death of the President, the Vice President, thus elected by the Senate, becomes President of the United States. On all questions of legislation the senators from the smallest States of the Union have an equal vote with those from the largest. The same may be said in regard to the ratification of treaties, and of Executive appointments. All this has worked admirably in practice, whilst it conforms in principle with the character of a government instituted by sovereign States. I presume no American citizen would desire the slightest change in the arrangement. Still, is it not unjust and unequal to the existing States to invest some forty or fifty thousand people collected in a territory, with the attributes of sovereignty, and place them on an equal footing with Virginia and New York in the Senate of the United States?

For these reasons I earnestly recommend the passage of a general act, which shall provide that, upon the application of a territorial legislature, declaring their belief that the territory contains a number of inhabitants which, if in a State, would entitle them to elect a member of Congress, it shall be the duty of the President to cause a census of the inhabitants to be taken, and if found sufficient, then, by the terms of this act, to authorize them to proceed "in their own way" to frame a State constitution, preparatory to admission into the Union. I also recommend that an appropriation may be made, to enable the President to take a census of the people of Kansas.

The present condition of the territory of Utah, when contrasted with what it was one year ago, is a subject for congratulation. It was then in a state of open rebellion, and cost what it might, the character of the government required that this rebellion should be suppressed, and, the Mormons compelled to yield obedience to the constitution and the laws. In order to accomplish this object, as I informed you in my last annual message, I appointed a new governor instead of Brigham Young, and other federal officers to take the place of those who, consulting their personal safety, had found it necessary to withdraw from the territory. To protect these civil officers, and to aid them, as a *posse comitatus*, in the execution of the laws in case of need, I ordered a detachment of the army to accompany them to Utah. The necessity of adopting these measures is now demonstrated.

On the 15th September, 1857, Governor Young issued his proclamation, in the style of an independent sovereign announcing his purpose to resist by force of arms the entry of the United States troops into our own territory of Utah. By this he required all the forces in the territory to "hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's notice to repel any and all such invasion," and establish martial law from its date throughout the territory. These proved to be no idle threats. Forts Bridger and Supply were vacated and burnt down by the Mormons, to deprive our troops of a shelter after their long and fatiguing march. Orders were issued by Daniel H. Wells, styling himself "Lieutenant General, Nauvoo Legion," to stampede the animals of the United States troops on their march, to set fire to their trains, to burn the grass and the whole country before them and on their flanks, to keep them from sleeping by night surprises, and to blockade the road by felling trees, and destroying the fords of rivers, &c., &c., &c.

These orders were promptly and effectually obeyed. On the 4th October, 1857, the Mormons captured and burned, on Green river, three of our supply trains, consisting of seventy-five wagons, loaded with provisions and tents for the army, and carried away several hundred animals. This diminished the supply of provisions so materially that General Johnston was obliged to reduce the ration, and, even with this precaution, there was only sufficient left to subsist the troops until the first of June.

Our little army behaved admirably, in their encampment at Fort Bridger, under these trying privations. In the midst of the mountains—in a dreary, unsettled, and inhospitable region, more than a thousand miles from home—they passed the severe and inclement winter without a murmur. They looked forward with confidence for relief from their country in due season, and in this they were not disappointed.

The Secretary of War employed all his energies to forward them the necessary supplies, and to muster and send such a military force to Utah as would render resistance on the part of the Mormons hopeless, and thus terminate the war without the effusion of blood. In his efforts he was efficiently sustained by Congress. They granted appropriations sufficient to cover the deficiency thus necessarily created, and also provided for raising two regiments of volunteers, "for the purpose of quelling disturbances in the territory of Utah, for the protection of supply and emigrant trains, and the suppression of Indian hostilities on the frontiers." Happily, there was no occasion to call these regiments into service. If there had been, I should have felt serious embarrassment in selecting them, so great was the number of our brave and patriotic citizens anxious to serve their country in this distant and apparently dangerous expedition. Thus it has ever been, and thus may it ever be!

The wisdom and economy of sending sufficient reinforcements to Utah are established not only by the event, but in the opinion of those who, from their position and opportunities, are the most capable of forming a correct judgment. General Johnston, the commander of the forces, in addressing the Secretary of War, from Fort Bridger, under date of October, 1857, expresses the opinion that "unless a large force is sent here, from the nature of the country, a protracted war on their [the Mormons] part is inevitable." This he considered necessary, to terminate the war "speedily and more economically than if attempted by insufficient means."

In the meantime, it was my anxious desire that the Mormons should yield obedience to the constitution and the laws, without rendering it necessary to resort to military force. To aid in accomplishing this object, I deemed it advisable, in April last, to dispatch two distinguished citizens of the United States, Messrs. Powell and McCulloch, to Utah. They bore with them a proclamation, addressed by myself to the inhabitants of Utah, dated on the sixth day of that month, warning them of their true condition, and how hopeless it was on their part to persist in rebellion against the United States, and offering all those who should submit to the laws a full pardon for their past seditions and treasons. At the same time, I assured those who should persist in rebellion against the United States, that they must expect no further lenity, but look to be rigorously dealt with according to their deserts. The instructions to these agents, as well as a copy of the proclamation, and their reports, are herewith submitted. It will be seen by their report of the 3d of July last, that they have fully confirmed the opinion expressed by General Johnston in the previous October, as to the necessity of sending reinforcements to Utah. In this they state that they "are firmly impressed with the belief that the presence of the army here and the large additional force that had been ordered to this territory, were the chief inducements that caused the Mormons to abandon the idea of resisting the authority of the United States. A less decisive policy would probably have resulted in a long, bloody, and expensive war."

These gentlemen conducted themselves to my entire satisfaction, and rendered useful services in executing the humane intentions of the government.

It also affords me great satisfaction to state that Governor Cumming has performed his duty in an able and conciliatory manner, and with the happiest effect. I cannot, in this connexion, refrain from mentioning the valuable services of Col. Thomas L. Kane, who, from motives of pure benevolence, and without any official character or pecuniary compensation, visited Utah during the last inclement winter, for the purpose of contributing to the pacification of the territory.

I am happy to inform you that the governor and other civil officers of Utah are now performing their appropriate functions without resistance. The authority of the constitution and the laws has been fully restored, and peace prevails throughout the territory.

A portion of the troops sent to Utah are now encamped in Cedar valley, forty-four miles southwest of Salt Lake City; and the remainder have been ordered to Oregon to suppress Indian hostilities.

The march of the army to Salt Lake City, through the Indian territory, has had a powerful effect in restraining the hostile feelings against the United States which existed among the Indians in that region, and in securing emigrants to the Far West against their depredations. This will also be the means of establishing military posts and promoting settlements along the route.

I recommend that the benefits of our land laws and pre-emption system be extended to the people of Utah, by the establishment of a land office in that territory.

I have occasion, also, to congratulate you on the result of our negotiations with China.

You were informed in my last annual message that our minister had been instructed to occupy a neutral position in the hostilities conducted by Great Britain and France against Canton. He was, however, at the same time, directed to co-operate cordially with the British and French ministers in all peaceful measures to secure by treaty those just concessions to foreign commerce which the nations of the world had a right to demand. It was impossible for me to proceed further than this on my own authority, without usurping the war-making power, which, under the constitution, belongs exclusively to Congress.

Besides, after a careful examination of the nature and extent of our grievances, I did not believe they were of such a pressing and aggravated character as would have justified Congress in declaring war against the Chinese empire, without first making another earnest attempt to adjust them by peaceful negotiation. I was the more inclined to this opinion, because of the severe chastisement which had then but recently been inflicted upon the Chinese by our squadron, in the capture and destruction of the Barrier forts, to avenge an alleged insult to our flag.

The event has proved the wisdom of our neutrality. Our minister has executed his instructions with eminent skill and ability. In conjunction with the Russian plenipotentiary, he has peacefully but effectually co-operated with the English and French plenipotentiaries; and each of the four powers has concluded a separate treaty with China, of a highly satisfactory character. The treaty concluded by our own plenipotentiary will immediately be submitted to the Senate.

I am happy to announce that, through the energetic yet conciliatory efforts of our consul general in Japan, a new treaty has been concluded with that empire, which may be expected materially to augment our trade and intercourse in that quarter, and remove from our countrymen the disabilities which have heretofore been imposed upon the exercise of their religion. The treaty shall be submitted to the Senate for approval, without delay.

It is my earnest desire that every misunderstanding with the government of Great Britain should be amicably and speedily adjusted. It has been the misfortune of both countries, almost ever since the period of the revolution, to have been annoyed by a succession of irritating and dangerous questions, threatening their friendly relations. This has partially prevented the full development of those feelings of mutual friendship between the people of the two countries, so natural in themselves and so conducive to their common interest. Any serious interruption in the commerce between the United States and Great Britain, would be equally injurious to both. In fact, no two nations have ever existed on the face of the earth, which could do each other so much good or so much harm.

Entertaining these sentiments, I am gratified to inform you that the long pending controversy between the two governments, in relation to the question of visitation and search, has been amicably adjusted. The claim on the part of Great Britain, forcibly to visit American vessels on the high seas in time of peace, could not be sustained under the law of nations, and it had been overruled by her own most eminent jurists. This question was recently brought to an issue, by the repeated acts of British cruisers, in boarding and searching our merchant vessels in the Gulf of Mexico and the adjacent seas. These acts were the more injurious and annoying, as these waters are traversed by a large portion of the commerce and navigation of the United States, and their free and unrestricted use is essential to the security of the coastwise trade between different States of the Union. Such vexatious interruptions could not fail to excite the feelings of the country, and to require the interposition of the government. Remonstrances were addressed to the British government against these violations of our rights of sovereignty, and a naval force was at the same time ordered to the Cuba waters, with directions "to protect all vessels of the United States on the high seas, from search or detention by the vessels-of-war of any other nation." These measures received the unqualified and even enthusiastic approbation of the American people. Most fortunately, however, no collision took place, and the British government promptly avowed its recognition of the principles of international law upon this subject, as laid down by the government of the United States, in the note of the Secretary of State to the British Minister at Washington, of April 19, 1858, which secure the vessels of the United States upon the high seas from visitation or search in time of peace, under any circumstances whatever. The claim has been abandoned in a manner reflecting honor on the British government, and evincing a just regard for the law of nations, and cannot fail to strengthen the amicable relations between the two countries.

The British government, at the same time, proposed to the United States that some mode should be adopted by mutual arrangement between the two countries, of a character which may be found effective, without being offensive, for verifying the nationality of vessels suspected, on good grounds, of carrying false colors. They have also invited the United States to take the initiative, and propose measures for this purpose. Whilst declining to assume so grave a responsibility, the Secretary of State has informed the British government that we are ready to receive any proposals which they may feel disposed to offer, having this object in view, and to consider them in an amicable spirit. A strong opinion is, however, expressed, that the occasional abuse of the flag of any nation is an evil far less to be deprecated, than would be the establishment of any regulations which might be incompatible with the freedom of the seas. This government has yet received no communication specifying the manner in which the British government would propose to carry out their suggestion; and I am inclined to believe that no plan which can be devised, will be free from grave embarrassments. Still, I shall form no decided opinion on the subject, until I shall have carefully and in the best spirit examined any proposals which they may think proper to make.

I am truly sorry I cannot also inform you that the complications between Great Britain and the United States, arising out of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty of April, 1850, have been finally adjusted.

At the commencement of your last session, I had reason to hope that, emancipating themselves from further unavailing discussions, the two governments would proceed to settle the Central American question in a practical manner, alike honorable and satisfactory to both; and this hope I have not yet abandoned. In my last annual message, I stated that overtures had been made by the British government for this purpose, in a friendly spirit, which I cordially reciprocated. Their proposal was to withdraw these questions from direct negotiation between the two governments; but to accomplish the same object by a negotiation between the British government and each of the Central American republics whose territorial interests are immediately involved. The settlement was to be made in accordance with the general tenor of the interpretation placed upon the Clayton and Bulwer treaty by the United States, with certain modifications. As negotiations are still pending upon this basis, it would not be proper for me now to communicate their present condition. A final settlement of these questions is greatly to be desired, as this would wipe out the last remaining subject of dispute between the two countries.

Our relations with the great empires of France and Russia, as well as with all other governments on the continent of Europe, except that of Spain, continue to be of the most friendly character.

With Spain our relations remain in an unsatisfactory condition. In my message of December last, I informed you that our envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Madrid had asked for his recall; and it was my purpose to send out a new minister to that court, with special instructions on all questions pending between the two governments, and with a determination to have them speedily and amicably adjusted, if that were possible. This purpose has been hitherto defeated by causes which I need not enumerate.

The mission to Spain has been intrusted to a distinguished citizen of Kentucky, who will proceed to Madrid without delay, and make another and a final attempt to obtain justice from that government.

Spanish officials, under the direct control of the Captain General of Cuba, have insulted our national flag, and, in repeated instances, have, from time to time, inflicted injuries on the persons and property of our citizens. These have given birth to numerous claims against the Spanish government, the merits of which have been ably discussed for a series of years, by our successive diplomatic representatives. Notwithstanding this, we have not arrived at a practical result in any single instance, unless we may except the case of the Black Warrior, under the late administration; and that presented an outrage of such a character as would have justified an immediate resort to war. All our attempts to obtain redress have been baffled and defeated. The frequent and oft-recurring changes in the Spanish ministry have been employed as reasons for delay. We have been compelled to wait again and again, until the new minister shall have had time to investigate the justice of our demands.

Even what have been denominated "the Cuban claims," in which more than a hundred of our citizens are directly interested, have furnished no exception. These claims were for the refunding of duties unjustly exacted from American vessels at different custom houses in Cuba, so long ago as the year 1843. The principles upon which they rest are so manifestly equitable and just, that after a period of nearly ten years, in 1854, they were recognized by the Spanish government. Proceedings were afterwards instituted to ascertain their amount, and this was finally fixed according to their own statement (with which we were satisfied) at the sum of one hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and thirty-five dollars and fifty-four cents. Just at the moment, after a delay of fourteen years, when we had reason to expect that this sum would be repaid with interest, we have received a proposal offering to refund one-third of that amount, (forty-two thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight dollars and forty-one cents,) but without interest, if we would accept this in full satisfaction. The offer is also accompanied by a declaration that this indemnification is not founded on any reason of strict justice, but is made as a special favor.

One alleged cause for procrastination in the examination and adjustment of our claims, arises from an obstacle which it is the duty of the Spanish government to remove. Whilst the captain-general of Cuba is invested with general despotic authority in the government of that island, the power is withheld from him to examine and redress wrongs committed by officials under his control, on citizens of the United States. Instead of making our complaints directly to him at Havana, we are obliged to present them through our minister at Madrid. These are then referred back to the captain-general for information; and much time is thus consumed in preliminary investigations and correspondence between Madrid and Cuba, and before the Spanish government will consent to proceed to negotiation. Many of the difficulties between the two governments would be obviated, and a long train of negotiation avoided, if the captain-general were invested with authority to settle questions of easy solution on the spot, where all the facts are fresh, and could be promptly and satisfactorily ascertained. We have hitherto in vain urged upon the Spanish government to confer this power upon the captain-general, and our minister to Spain will again be instructed to urge this subject on their notice. In this respect, we occupy a different position from the powers of Europe. Cuba is almost within sight of our shores; our commerce with it is far greater than that of any other nation, including Spain itself, and our citizens are in habits of daily and extended personal intercourse with every part of the island. It is, therefore, a great grievance that, when any difficulty occurs, no matter how unimportant, which might be readily settled at the moment, we should be obliged to resort to Madrid, especially when the very first step to be taken there is to refer it back to Cuba.

The truth is that Cuba, in its existing colonial condition, is a constant source of injury and annoyance to the American people. It is the only spot in the civilized world where the African slave trade is tolerated, and we are bound by treaty with Great Britain, to maintain a naval force on the coast of Africa, at much expense both of life and treasure, solely for the purpose of arresting slavers bound to that island. The late serious difficulties between the United States and Great Britain, respecting the right of search, now so happily terminated, could never have arisen if Cuba had not afforded a market for slaves. As long as this market shall remain open, there can be no hope for the civilization of benighted Africa. Whilst the demand for slaves continues in Cuba, wars will be waged among the petty and barbarous chiefs in Africa, for the purpose of seizing subjects to supply this trade. In such a condition of affairs, it is impossible that the light of civilization and religion can ever penetrate those dark abodes.

It has been made known to the world by my predecessors, that the United States have, on several occasions, endeavored to acquire Cuba from Spain by honorable negotiation. If this were accomplished, the last relic of the African slave trade would instantly disappear. We would not, if we could, acquire Cuba in any other manner. This is due to our national character. All the territory which we have acquired since the origin of the government, has been by fair purchase from France, Spain and Mexico, or by the free and voluntary act of the independent State of Texas, in blending her destinies with our own. This course we shall ever pursue, unless circumstances should occur, which we do not now anticipate, rendering a departure from it clearly justifiable, under the imperative and overruling law of self-preservation.

The Island of Cuba, from its geographical position, commands the mouth of the Mississippi, and the immense and annually increasing trade, foreign and coastwise, from the valley of that noble river, now embraces half the sovereign States of the Union. With that island under the dominion of a distant foreign power, this trade, of vital importance to these States, is exposed to the danger of being destroyed in time of war, and it has hitherto been subjected to perpetual injury and annoyance in time of peace. Our relations with Spain, which ought to be of the most friendly character, must always be placed in jeopardy while the existing colonial government over the Island shall remain in its present condition.

Whilst the possession of the Island would be of vast importance to the United States, its value to Spain is, comparatively, unimportant. Such was the relative situation of the parties, when the great Napoleon transferred Louisiana to the United States. Jealous, as he ever was, of the national honor and interests of France, no person throughout the world has imputed blame to him for accepting a pecuniary equivalent for this cession.

The publicity which has been given to our former negotiations upon this subject, and the large appropriation which may be required to effect the purpose, render it expedient, before making another attempt to renew the negotiation, that I should lay the whole subject before Congress. This is especially necessary, as it may become indispensable to success that I should be entrusted with the means of making an advance to the Spanish government immediately after the signing of the treaty, without awaiting the ratification of it by the Senate. I am encouraged to make this suggestion by the example of Mr. Jefferson previous to the purchase of Louisiana from France, and by that of Mr. Polk in view of the acquisition of territory from Mexico. I refer the whole subject to Congress, and commend it to their careful consideration.

I repeat the recommendation made in my message of December last, in favor of an appropriation "to be paid to the Spanish government for the purpose of distribution among the claimants in the Amistad case." President Polk first made a similar recommendation in December, 1847, and it was repeated by my immediate predecessor in December, 1853. I entertain no doubt that indemnity is fairly due to these claimants under our treaty with Spain, of the 27th October, 1795; and whilst demanding justice we ought to do justice. An appropriation, promptly made, for this purpose could not fail to exert a favorable influence on our negotiations with Spain.

Our position in relation to the independent States south of us on this continent, and especially those within the limits of North America, is of a peculiar character. The northern boundary of Mexico is coincident with our own southern boundary from ocean to ocean; and we must necessarily feel a deep interest in all that concerns the well-being and the fate of so near a neighbor. We have always cherished the kindest wishes for the success of that republic, and have indulged the hope that it might at last, after all its trials, enjoy peace and prosperity under a free and stable government. We have never hitherto interfered, directly or indirectly, with its internal affairs, and it is a duty which we owe to ourselves to protect the integrity of its territory, against the hostile interference of any other power. Our geographical position, our direct interest in all that concerns Mexico, and our well-settled policy in regard to the North American continent, render this an indispensable duty.

Mexico has been in a state of constant revolution almost ever since it achieved its independence. One military leader after another has usurped the government in rapid succession, and the various constitutions from time to time adopted have been set at naught almost as soon as they were proclaimed. The successive governments have afforded no adequate protection, either to Mexican citizens or foreign residents, against lawless violence. Heretofore, a seizure of the capital by a military chieftain has been generally followed by at least the nominal submission of the country to his rule for a brief period, but not so at the present crisis of Mexican affairs. A civil war has been raging for some time throughout the republic, between the central government at the city of Mexico, which has endeavored to subvert the constitution last framed, by military power, and those who maintain the authority of that constitution. The antagonist parties each hold possession of different States of the republic, and the fortunes of the war are constantly changing. Meanwhile, the most reprehensible means have been employed by both parties to extort money from foreigners, as well as natives, to carry on this ruinous contest. The truth is that this fine country, blessed with a productive soil and a benign climate, has been reduced, by civil dissension, to a condition of almost hopeless anarchy and imbecility. It would be vain for this government to attempt to enforce payment in money of the claims of American citizens, now amounting to more than ten millions of dollars, against Mexico, because she is destitute of all pecuniary means to satisfy these demands.

Our late minister was furnished with ample powers and instructions for the adjustment of all pending questions with the central government of Mexico, and he performed his duty with zeal and ability. The claims of our citizens, some of them arising out of the violation of an express provision of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and others from gross injuries to persons as well as property, have remained unredressed and even unnoticed. Remonstrances against these grievances have been addressed, without effect, to that government. Meantime, in various parts of the republic, instances have been numerous of the murder, imprisonment, and plunder of our citizens, by different parties claiming and exercising a local jurisdiction; but the central government, although repeatedly urged thereto, have made no effort either to punish the authors of these outrages or to prevent their recurrence. No American citizen can now visit Mexico on lawful business, without imminent danger to his person and property. There is no adequate protection to either; and in this respect our treaty with that republic is almost a dead letter.

This state of affairs was brought to a crisis in May last, by the promulgation of a decree levying a contribution *pro rata* upon all the capital in the republic, between certain specified amounts, whether held by Mexicans or foreigners. Mr. Forsyth, regarding this decree in the light of a "forced loan," formally protested against its application to his countrymen, and advised them not to pay the contribution, but to suffer it to be forcibly exacted. Acting upon this advice, an American citizen refused to pay the contribution, and his property was seized by armed men to satisfy the amount. Not content with this, the government proceeded still further, and issued a decree banishing him from the country. Our minister immediately notified them that, if this decree should be carried into execution, he would feel it to be his duty to adopt "the most decided measures that belong to the powers and obligations of the representative office." Notwithstanding this warning, the banishment was enforced, and Mr. Forsyth promptly announced to the government the suspension of the political relations of his legation with them, until the pleasure of his own government should be ascertained.

This government did not regard the contribution imposed by the decree of the 15th of May last, to be in strictness a "forced loan," and, as such, prohibited, by the tenth article of the treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Mexico, to the benefits of which American citizens are entitled by treaty; yet the imposition of the contribution upon foreigners was considered an unjust and oppressive measure. Besides, internal factions in other parts of the republic, were at the same time levying similar exactions upon the property of our citizens, and interrupting their commerce. There had been an entire failure, on the part of our minister, to secure redress for the wrongs which our citizens had endured, notwithstanding his persevering efforts. And from the temper manifested by the Mexican government, he had repeatedly assured us that no favorable change could be expected, until the United States should "give striking evidence of their will and power to protect their citizens," and that "severe chastening is the only earthly remedy for our grievances." From this statement of facts, it would have been worse than idle to direct Mr. Forsyth to retrace his steps and resume diplomatic relations with that government; and it was therefore deemed proper to sanction his withdrawal of the legation from the city of Mexico.

Abundant cause now undoubtedly exists, for a resort to hostilities against the government still holding possession of the capital. Should they succeed in subduing the constitutional forces, all reasonable hope will then have expired of a peaceful settlement of our difficulties.

On the other hand, should the constitutional party prevail, and their authority be established over the republic, there is reason to hope that they will be animated by a less unfriendly spirit, and may grant that redress to American citizens which justice requires, so far as they may possess the means. But for this expectation, I should at once have recommended to Congress to grant the necessary power to the President to take possession of a sufficient portion of the remote and unsettled territory of Mexico, to be held in pledge until our injuries shall be redressed, and our just demands be satisfied. We have already exhausted every milder means of obtaining justice. In such a case, this remedy of reprisals is recognized by the law of nations, not only as just in itself, but as a means of preventing actual war.

But there is another view of our relations with Mexico, arising from the unhappy condition of affairs along our southwestern frontier, which demands immediate action. In that remote region, where there are but few white inhabitants, large bands of hostile and predatory Indians roam promiscuously over the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Sonora, and our adjoining territories. The local governments of these States are perfectly helpless, and are kept in a state of constant alarm by the Indians. They have not the power, if they possessed the will, even to restrain lawless Mexicans from passing the border and committing depredations on our remote settlers. A state of anarchy and violence prevails throughout that distant frontier. The laws are a dead letter, and life and property are wholly insecure. For this reason the settlement of Arizona is arrested, whilst it is of great importance that a chain of inhabitants should extend all along its southern border, sufficient for their own protection and that of the United States mail passing to and from California. Well-founded apprehensions are now entertained, that the Indians, and wandering Mexicans, equally lawless, may break up the important stage and postal communication recently established between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions. This passes very near to the Mexican boundary throughout the whole length of Arizona. I can imagine no possible remedy for these evils, and no mode of restoring law and order on that remote and unsettled frontier but for the government of the United States to assume a temporary protectorate over the northern portions of Chihuahua and Sonora, and to establish military posts within the same—and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. This protection may be withdrawn as soon as local governments shall be established in these Mexican States capable of performing their duties to the United States, restraining the lawless and preserving peace along the border.

I do not doubt that this measure will be viewed in a friendly spirit by the governments and people of Chihuahua and Sonora, as it will prove equally effectual for the protection of their citizens on that remote and lawless frontier, as for citizens of the United States.

And in this connection, permit me to recall your attention to the condition of Arizona. The population of that territory, numbering, as is alleged, more than ten thousand souls, are practically without a government, without laws, and without any regular administration of justice. Murder and other crimes are committed with impunity. This state of things calls loudly for redress; and I therefore repeat my recommendation for the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona.

The political condition of the narrow isthmus of Central America, through which transit routes pass between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, presents a subject of deep interest to all commercial nations. It is over these transits that a large proportion of the trade and travel between the European and Asiatic continents is destined to pass. To the United States these routes are of incalculable importance, as a means of communication between their Atlantic and Pacific possessions. The latter now extend throughout seventeen degrees of latitude on the Pacific coast, embracing the important State of California and the flourishing territories of Oregon and Washington. All commercial nations, therefore, have a deep and direct interest, that these communications shall be rendered secure from interruption. If an arm of the sea, connecting the two oceans, penetrated through Nicaragua and Costa Rica, it could not be pretended that these States would have the right to arrest or retard its navigation, to the injury of other nations. The transit by land over this narrow isthmus occupies nearly the same position. It is a highway in which they themselves have little interest, when compared with the vast interests of the rest of the world. Whilst their rights of sovereignty ought to be respected, it is the duty of other nations to require that this important passage shall not be interrupted by the civil wars and revolutionary outbreaks which have so frequently occurred in that region. The stake is too important to be left at the mercy of rival companies, claiming to hold conflicting contracts with Nicaragua. The commerce of other nations is not to stand still and await the adjustment of such petty controversies. The government of the United States expect no more than this, and they will not be satisfied with less. They would not, if they could, derive any advantage from the Nicaragua transit, not common to the rest of the world. Its neutrality and protection, for the common use of all nations, is their only object. They have no objection that Nicaragua shall demand and receive a fair compensation, from the companies and individuals who may traverse the route; but they insist that it shall never hereafter be closed by an arbitrary decree of that government. If disputes arise between it and those with whom they may have entered into contracts, these must be adjusted by some fair tribunal provided for the purpose, and the route must not be closed pending the controversy. This is our whole policy, and it cannot fail to be acceptable to other nations.

All these difficulties might be avoided, if, consistently with the good faith of Nicaragua, the use of this transit could be thrown open to general competition; providing at the same time for the payment of a reasonable rate to the Nicaraguan government, on passengers and freight.

In August, 1852, the Accessory Transit Company made its first interoceanic trip over the Nicaragua route, and continued in successful operation, with great advantage to the public, until the 18th February, 1856, when it was closed, and the grant to this company, as well as its charter, were summarily and arbitrarily revoked by the government of President Rivas. Previous to this date, however, in 1854, serious disputes concerning the settlement of their accounts had arisen between the company and the government, threatening the interruption of the route at any moment. These the United States in vain endeavored to compose. It would be useless to narrate the various proceedings which took place between the parties, up to the time when the transit was discontinued. Suffice it to say that, since February, 1856, it has remained closed, greatly to the prejudice of citizens of the United States. Since that time, the competition has ceased between the rival routes of Panama and Nicaragua, and, in consequence thereof, an unjust and unreasonable amount has been exacted from our citizens for their passage to and from California.

A treaty was signed on the 16th day of November, 1857, by the Secretary of State and Minister of Nicaragua, under the stipulations of which the use and protection of the transit route would have been secured, not only to the United States, but equally to all other nations. How and on what pretexts this treaty has failed to receive the ratification of the Nicaraguan government will appear by the papers herewith communicated from the State Department. The principal objection seems to have been, to the provision authorizing the United States to employ force to keep the route open, in case Nicaragua should fail to perform her duty in this respect.

From the feebleness of that republic, its frequent changes of government, and its constant internal dissensions, this had become a most important stipulation, and one essentially necessary not only for the security of the route, but for the safety of American citizens passing and repassing to and from our Pacific possessions. Were such a stipulation embraced in a treaty between the United States and Nicaragua, the knowledge of this fact would of itself most probably prevent hostile parties from committing aggressions on the route, and render our actual interference for its protection unnecessary.

The executive government of this country, in its intercourse with foreign nations, is limited to the employment of diplomacy alone. When this fails it can proceed no further. It cannot legitimately resort to force, without the direct authority of Congress, except in resisting and repelling hostile attacks. It would have no authority to enter the territories of Nicaragua, even to prevent the destruction of the transit, and protect the lives and property of our own citizens on their passage. It is true, that on a sudden emergency of this character, the President would direct any armed force in the vicinity to march to their relief; but in doing this he would act upon his own responsibility.

Under these circumstances, I earnestly recommend to Congress, the passage of an act authorizing the President, under such restrictions as they may deem proper, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States in preventing the transit from being obstructed or closed by lawless violence, and in protecting the lives and property of American citizens travelling thereupon, requiring at the same time that these forces shall be withdrawn the moment the danger shall have passed away. Without such a provision, our citizens will be constantly exposed to interruption in their progress, and to lawless violence.

A similar necessity exists for the passage of such an act, for the protection of the Panama and Tehuantepec routes.

In reference to the Panama route, the United States, by their existing treaty with New Granada, expressly guarantee the neutrality of the Isthmus, "with the view that the free transit from the one to the other sea may not be interrupted or embarrassed in any future time while this treaty exists."

In regard to the Tehuantepec route, which has been recently opened under the most favorable auspices, our treaty with Mexico of the 30th December 1853, secures to the citizens of the United States a right of transit over it for their persons and merchandise, and stipulates that neither government shall "interpose any obstacle" thereto. It also concedes to the United States the "right to transport across the Isthmus, in closed bags, the mails of the United States not intended for distribution along the line of the communication; also, the effects of the United States government and its citizens which may be intended for transit, and not for distribution on the Isthmus, free of custom-house or other charges by the Mexican government."

These treaty stipulations with New Granada and Mexico, in addition to the considerations applicable to the Nicaragua route, seem to require legislation for the purpose of carrying them into effect.

The injuries which have been inflicted upon our citizens in Costa Rica and Nicaragua, during the last two or three years, have received the prompt attention of this government. Some of these injuries were of the most aggravated character. The transaction at Virgin Bay in April, 1856, when a company of unarmed Americans, who were in no way connected with any belligerent conduct or party, were fired upon by the troops of Costa Rica, and numbers of them killed and wounded, was brought to the knowledge of Congress by my predecessor soon after its occurrence and was also presented to the government of Costa Rica, for that immediate investigation and redress which the nature of the case demanded.

A similar course was pursued with reference to other outrages in these countries, some of which were hardly less aggravated in their character than the transaction at Virgin Bay. At the time, however, when our present Minister to Nicaragua was appointed, in December, 1857, no redress had been obtained for any of these wrongs, and no reply even had been received to the demands which had been made by this government upon that of Costa Rica, more than a year before. Our Minister was instructed, therefore, to lose no time in expressing to those governments the deep regret with which the President had witnessed this inattention to the just claims of the United States, and in demanding their prompt and satisfactory adjustment. Unless this demand shall be complied with at an early day, it will only remain for this government to adopt such other measures as may be necessary, in order to obtain for itself that justice which it has in vain attempted to secure by peaceful means from the governments of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. While it has shown, and will continue to show, the most sincere regard for the rights and honor of these republics, it cannot permit this regard to be met by an utter neglect, on their part, of what is due to the government and citizens of the United States.

Against New Granada we have long-standing causes of complaint, arising out of the unsatisfied claims of our citizens upon that republic; and to these have been more recently added the outrages committed upon our citizens at Panama in April, 1856. A treaty for the adjustment of these difficulties, was concluded by the Secretary of State and the Minister of New Granada, in September, 1857, which contained just and acceptable provisions for that purpose. This treaty was transmitted to Bogota, and was ratified by the government of New Granada, but with certain amendments. It was not, however, returned to this city until after the close of the last session of the Senate. It will be immediately transmitted to that body for their advice and consent; and should this be obtained, it will remove all our existing causes of complaint against New Granada on the subject of claims.

Questions have arisen between the two governments, as to the right of New Granada to levy a tonnage duty upon the vessels of the United States in its ports of the Isthmus, and to levy a passenger tax upon our citizens arriving in that country, whether with a design to remain there or to pass from ocean to ocean by the transit route; and also a tax upon the mail of the United States transported over the Panama railroad. The government of New Granada has been informed, that the United States would consider the collection of either of these taxes, as an act in violation of the treaty between the two countries, and as such would be resisted by the United States. At the same time, we are prepared to discuss these questions in a spirit of [illegible] and with a sincere desire to a[illegible]anner. A negotiation [illegible] menced. [illegible] lest these ta[illegible] sent circumstan[illegible]

With the ex[illegible] the most frie[illegible] of the two coun[illegible] agricultural pro[illegible] mutual exchange[illegible] flour is consumed[illegible] ble the amount in v[illegible] sumed in the United [illegible] case, a heavy duty has [illegible] cently, upon the impor[illegible] into Brazil. I am gratified[illegible] to inform you that in Septemb[illegible] reduced from $1 32 to about 4[illegible] and the duties on other articles of [illegible] have been diminished in nearly the same [illegible] tion.

I regret to state that the government of [illegible] still continues to levy an export duty of about [illegible] per cent. on coffee, notwithstanding this article is admitted free from duty in the United States. This is a heavy charge upon the consumers of coffee in our country, as we purchase half of the entire surplus crop of that article raised in Brazil. Our minister, under instructions, will reiterate his efforts to have this export duty removed; and it is hoped that the enlightened government of the emperor will adopt this wise, just, and equal policy. In that event, there is good reason to believe that the commerce between the two countries will greatly increase, much to the advantage of both.

The claims of our citizens against the government of Brazil are not, in the aggregate, of very large amount; but some of them rest upon plain principles of justice, and their settlement ought not to be longer delayed. A renewed and earnest effort will be made by our minister to procure their final adjustment.

On the 2d of June last, Congress passed a joint resolution authorising the President "to adopt such measures and use such force as, in his judgment, may be necessary and advisable," "for the purpose of adjusting the differences between the United States and the republic of Paraguay, in connexion with the

THE TWO ANGELS.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF GEIBEL.

Oh, know'st thou, Heart, the two sweet sister
— As,
Who have descended from the realms above—
Still-blessing Friendship, with her spray of lilies,
And, with her rose-branch, all-enchanting Love?

Black-locked is Love, all glowing in her passion,
Bright as the spring, budding in haste so wild;
Friendship in blonde, in softest colors blooming,
And like a summer's night, so still and mild.

Love is a raging sea, where in the tumult
In countless numbers wave on wave is piled;
Friendship, a mountain lake, which beareth Heaven
Clear-mirrored back, within its depths so mild.

Like world-destroying lightning Love breaks on us,
But gentle Friendship comes like moonlight pale;
Self-sacrificing, naught for self demanding—
While Love will conquer and o'er all prevail.

And yet, thrice bless'd, thrice dearly to be cherished,
The heart where both in loving friendship dwell;
And where, beside the Rose's glowing crimson,
The soft, mysterious Lily blooms as well.

—*Standard.*

GLANCES AT MY PRESENT CRUISE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,

BY THE AUTHOR OF "GLANCES AT MY LAST CRUISE."

Here I am again in Japan! The terraced hill-sides of the beautiful country around Nagasakie lift their green heights about us, and the clear blue waters of the lake-like harbor wash against our sides, and curl and ripple under the influence of a refreshing breeze. Immediately astern of us, and dist[illegible] the fourth of a mile [illegible] itself. I don't [illegible] sight the ter- he nume- and dense- over those ar and thriv- y hand. One go on shore, to ugh those groves, -looking mountain . their sides. But, be- our foot on shore, I want . over my shoulder as I turn ry of the past, and see how this utiful of countries was once the scene most revolting of outrages.

Marco Polo, who visited these seas in the thirteenth century, gives us the first authentic information as to the existence of Japan. By him it was called *Cipango*, and he first heard of it from the Chinese. How its name became changed from *Cipango* to *Japan* I have never been able to ascertain. The Japanese themselves speak of their country as "*Nipon*." In 1542 it was visited by Mendez Pinto, shortly after which the Portuguese succeeded in establishing a commercial depot at the very port in which we are now anchored. A very lucrative trade at once rewarded their exertions, and Japan began to be known to Europe. In 1549, Francis Xavier, a Jesuit priest, and a most energetic and good man, appeared among them, and began to expound the doctrines of the Romish Church. He met with such success that the rival society of St. Francis became alarmed, and hurried forward missionaries of its own, to share the honors of the easy harvest. The result of this unchristian rivalry may readily be imagined. It gave the death-blow to the religion of the Cross, and closed Japan for centuries to come. How was this done? One cannot look at these now laughing and amiable people, and believe that two centuries back their hands were dyed with Christian blood. And yet history says, "They murdered all of their companions who had become Christians and who would not recant, and have ever since trampled upon the cross annually, to demonstrate their contempt for Him who died upon it." And history is true in this case. Some of the deaths to which these native Christians were subjected were of too revolting a nature to be repeated in a family circle—others were less so; but even these were terrible. Men and women were suspended by the heels, lowered head first into square holes just large and deep enough to receive their heads and busts, and there kept until the right hand (which was left at liberty for the purpose) should be waved to signify recantation. Others were nailed upon the cross which they worshipped, and others again were starved back into infidelity or death. In consequence of their persecutions, the last Christian disappeared from Japan in the year 1635. I am under the impression that this "last Christian" was a Jesuit priest, who, with doubtful religious right, had remained concealed in the country after his companions were expelled, wandering in disguise among his scattered flock, and teaching in secret a religion which we know should be boldly proclaimed, or carried to some other field. Since that time Japan has lived isolated from the world; but, from present indications, she will be as open to emigration a few years hence as is our own expansive country.

It was the 10th of July, 1858, when we anchored here, and it is now the 20th. Immediately after letting go our anchor, a party of "the mess" went on shore to see what was to be seen, and to walk off the stiffness of our late voyage. We landed upon the artificial island of Desima, which is separated from the town of Nagasakie by a narrow moat spanned by a single bridge, and which for the last two hundred years or more, has been occupied by the few Dutch merchants who were allowed to remain thus on the edge of Japan, when all other foreigners were expelled. History tells us how these merchants maintained their footing—it was by proclaiming that they were *Dutchmen*, not *Christians*, and even by countenancing, if not assisting, the bloody work which followed. That was hundreds of years since, however, and the Dutchmen who now stepped politely forward to welcome us, are a very different set of men. They are now no longer confined to their small island, but may roam the country at pleasure, within certain limits. This liberty is one of the results of a late treaty. They are also now engaged by the Japanese to instruct them in the arts and sciences, and are apparently making very rapid headway. Anchored near us is a fine looking screw steamer of war, flying the Japanese flag, which was built in Holland at the request of the Emperor and for which he paid quite a large sum. She arrived here ten months since, under command of a captain and officers of the Dutch navy, and Japanese officials were at once sent down from Yeddo *to learn from her officers how to manage her*. The consequence of this is, that those gentlemen are now occupying houses on shore, where they live very comfortably, and where they have their daily classes. One teaches them steam—another, navigation—a third, seamanship—a fourth, medicine. Thus are they taking their first strides toward ocean navigation.

On the opposite side of the bay we see a *steam pump* at work, and upon inquiry, learn that it was imported from Holland, for the purpose of pumping the water out of some neighboring coal mines, but that the Emperor having ordered the engineer of the steamer to build him an extensive foundry, blacksmith-shops, machine-shops, &c., it was now being used to keep the excavations for the foundations of those buildings dry. Just think of there being a *steam pump* at work in Japan! That fact alone is sufficient to throw her ports open to the world in a few years.

We found the captain of this steamer living in a large house on Desima, and being strongly pressed to take lunch with him, could not well refuse. In addition to regaling us upon the best of the season, he conversed most interestingly about Japan, and his intercourse with the princes and people.—Among other things, he told us of a visit he had paid to a large city of 400,000 population, called Kago-sima, and the "metropolis" of the province of the Prince of Sats'ma. I will try to repeat his remarks as nearly as possible.

"We had heard much of the Prince of Sats'ma, of the greatness of his wealth and power, and of the beauty of his city of Kago-sima, and the surrounding country. We knew that Kago-sima was situated at the head of the extensive bay of that name, on the south end of this Island of Kin-a'in, and that nothing would be easier than to get up steam and run down to it in the Japong, our steamer. It was necessary, however, to get permission from Yeddo to do this, and we consequently sent a petition to that effect to the Emperor. This petition was carried overland by a special post, who returned at the end of three months with the necessary permission. I suppose our request may have been forwarded by the Empress, who, being the daughter of the Prince, would naturally wish us to see the possessions of her father.—Well, we took our Japanese pupils on board, got up steam, and after a quick run of thirty-six hours, anchored off Kago-sima. We were kindly received by Sats'ma-Nokami (Kami means Prince; No, of; Sats'ma-Sats'ma, Prince of Sats'ma,) who accommodated us in his extensive palace, entertained us with feats of jugglery, etc., and took us out daily to see the objects of interest with which Kago-sima abounded.—Among the latter we were shown an extensive foundry, where brass guns had long been cast in abundance, and where they were at the time experimenting with iron ones. The Prince complained that they encountered very poor success with the latter, and that he should probably continue casting brass for the present. From this foundry he took us to a glass manufactory, where several hundred workmen were employed. There we saw as fine cut-glass ware as is made in any part of the world, and a vast quantity of articles of inferior make.—We saw, among other things, a globe of thin glass, that contained a block of pine wood inside—this was intended to ask, 'How did this piece of wood get in here?' When we were leaving, he insisted upon presenting me with this cut-glass tumbler and decanter—suppose you accept the former, to show to those persons in the United States who you say will ridicule the idea of cut-glass being made in Japan?"

"Not a bit of it!" I replied. "It will be equally interesting for you to send to Holland."

He insisted so strongly, however, that I had to accept, and the next day it was sent on board.

Leaving our hospitable friend after lunch and a fragrant manilla, we crossed the stone bridge connecting Desima with Nagasakie, and entered the latter. Like Venice, this city is divided by canals, though not so extensively, and the houses are built close down to the water's edge. It has also both wide and narrow streets, most of which run at right angles, and are macadamized as nicely as those of any European city. They are also cleaner than the streets of any city I ever passed through. While we were walking along the bank of one of the canals already mentioned, we witnessed a most singular method of catching eels—two methods in fact. In the first case two men had built an oblong dam along the stone wall of the canal where the water was about a foot deep—the wall itself forming one side of the dam. They had plastered this with mud so as to separate the water of the dam from that of the canal, and then bailed the former dry. This left exposed the crevices of the stone wall, which looked very much like the favorite retreats of eels. One man now held a flat scoop-like basket under a crevice, while his friend threw several dippers of soap-suds back into it. This suds seemed particularly unpleasant to the slippery gentlemen, for it no sooner went in than he came out—right into the basket. We watched this singular method of fishing for several minutes, during which time four eels were captured. Passing on a little farther we came to several children engaged in the application of method No. 2. When we stopped to see what success they met with, they became alarmed, and evinced evident symptoms of retiring. We calmed their fears, however, by a timely present of several buttons, and then seated ourselves upon some stones to watch their success. They were armed with a thin stick about three feet long, a piece of thread of equal length, with a small hook secured to one end, and with an ordinary fishing worm for bait.—With their sticks they shoved the hook as far down into the crevices as possible, withdrew the former, held on to the end of the string, and waited patiently for a bite. After some five minutes, a little fellow began pulling cautiously on his string, the others began shouting, and the next moment out came the eel—evidently against his will. He was at once unhooked, and slipped into a basket, and we were turning to go away when the fortunate fisherman approached, basket in hand, and made signs that we were to accept the capture in return for our buttons. We patted the little fellow on his shaved head, gave him another button, and made signs that he should keep the eel for supper; after which we continued our walk.

I don't think I ever saw a happier people than these which now crowded the streets through which we passed. Such a thing as want seemed entirely unknown to them, and we did not encounter a single scowling face. Everything was curiosity, and smiles, and salutations, and apparent plenty. Here we were pressed to enter the cleanly houses and drink sakie or tea. In another place we must share their evening meal and smoke a dozen or more of their diminutive pipes of tobacco; and again we would be stopped at a fruit stall and pressed to partake. During our whole stay we have not seen a dozen beggars, and even they could scarcely be called such, for their wants seemed to be supplied by every one as a matter of course. These were always old men or women who were evidently unable to support life in any other way.

I WAS LOVED ONCE.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

But once in all my youth
The flower of Heaven one single bud enchanted
Unclosed for me, yet still my soul is haunted
By visions starry, melodies divine,
Fancies so rare I scarce can call them mine,
From its immortal fragrance springing.
And what care I forsooth
That Life's fierce thorns have long since to me clung,
That Hope's death-shriek within my brain has rung,
That Fate a Banshee song for me is singing,
When from my perished youth
Remains this cherished truth.
And, Lord, who should repine,
When this sweet gift of thine,
Gift deathless and divine,
Even I—could claim as mine!

Pittsburg. ELEANOR BERESFORD.

FREDERICK THE GREAT AND NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.—BY THOMAS CARLYLE.—The figure of Napoleon was titanic, especially to the generations that looked on him, and that waited, shuddering, to be devoured by him. In general, in that French revolution, all was on a huge scale; if not greater than anything in human experience, at least more grandiose. All was recorded in bulletins, too, addressed to the shilling gallery; and there were fellows on the stage with such a breadth of sabre, extent of whiskerage, strength of windpipe, and command of men and gunpowder, as had never been seen before. How they bellowed, stalked, and flourished about, counterfeiting Jove's thunder to an amazing degree! Terrific Drawcansir figures of enormous whiskerage, unlimited command of gunpowder; not without sufficient ferocity, and even a certain heroism, stage heroism in them; compared with whom, to the shilling gallery, and frightened, excited theatre at large, it seemed as if there had been no generals or sovereigns before; as if Frederick, Gustavus, Cromwell, William Conqueror, and Alexander the Great were not worth speaking of henceforth.

All this, however, in half a century is considerably altered. The Drawcansir equipments getting gradually torn off, the natural size is seen better; translated from the bulletin style into that of fact and history, miracles, even to the shilling gallery, are not so miraculous. It begins to be apparent that there lived great men before the era of bulletins and Agamemnon. Austerlitz and Wagram shot away more gunpowder—gunpowder probably in the proportion of ten to one, or a hundred to one; but neither of them was tenth-part such a beating to your enemy as that of Rosbach, brought about by strategetic art, human ingenuity and intrepidity, and the loss of 476 men. Leuthen, too, the Battle of Leuthen (though so few English readers ever heard of it,) may very well hold up its head beside any victory gained by Napoleon or another. For the odds were not far from three to one; the soldiers were of not far from equal quality; and only the general was consummately superior, and the defeat a destruction. Napoleon did indeed, by immense expenditure of men and gunpowder, overrun Europe for a time; but Napoleon never, by husbanding and wisely expending his men and gunpowder, defended a little Prussia against all Europe, year after year for seven years long, till Europe had enough, and gave up the enterprise as one it could not manage. So soon as the Drawcansir equipments are well torn off, and the shilling gallery got to silence, it will be found that there were great kings before Napoleon, and likewise an Art of War, grounded on veracity and human courage, and insight, not upon Drawcansir rhodomontade, grandiose Dick-Turpinism, revolutionary madness, and unlimited expenditure of men and gunpowder.—*Carlyle's Frederick the Great.*

THE PHYSICAL STATE.—No keenness or culture of intellect (says a recent writer) that does not embrace the culture of health—no wealth, no morality, and not even a religion, that does not embrace the preservation of the physical system from all deterioration, and its cultivation to the highest perfection, will ever last long. No nation or people will ever preserve the weight of influence to which they are naturally entitled among others, without manliness of development as the only reliable foundation of manliness and reliability of character. All that tends to produce these is so far a vital good.

☞ What is *difficulty*? Only a word indicating the degree of strength requisite for accomplishing difficult objects; a bugbear to children and fools; only a mere stimulus to men.—*Warren.*

THE AMERICAN "PRINCE OF POETS."

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

I was, as the Americans, say, "under the weather" when I arrived in Baltimore, and had caught so violent a cold from sitting in a draught between two windows in a railway car, preternaturally heated by a fierce cast-iron stove, glowing red with anthracite coal, that I found it comfortable, if not necessary, to retire early to bed. My name had not been entered in the hotel books above an hour, and I was just preparing myself for slumber, when a negro waiter knocked at my door, and, entering, handed me the card of a gentleman who desired to see me on very particular and important business. The card bore this inscription:

"The Eccelentissimo Herr Alphonso G——r, Prince of Poets of the United States of America, to the Right Honorable C. M., Prince of Poets of England."

"Surely," said I, to the negro, "this man must be mad!"

"Nobber see him before, massa."

"Tell him I'm sick, and in bed; say that he must write his business, or call again to-morrow."

"Yes, massa."

I turned round in bed, and tried to forget the untimely visitor, when the negro again appeared.

"He won't go away, massa."

"Tell him that my name is Brown, or Jones—that he has made a mistake. Tell him that I've got the smallpox or yellow fever—anything to get rid of him."

It was evident that the negro did not quite understand me. I fancied, moreover, that I heard the "Eccelentissimo Herr" and "Prince of Poets" close behind him. And, as a last resource in my desperation, I got out of bed, told the good-natured waiter to be gone, and barred and bolted the door. This was sufficient security for the night, and I soon forgot all about the interruption; but next morning, just as I was putting on my boots, there came a gentle tap at the bedroom door. Oblivious of the "Eccelentissimo Herr" and "Prince of Poets," I said "Come in," and in walked a young man, with a very dirty shirt, very dirty hands, very shabby garments, very wild eyes, and very loose, discolored teeth. He smelt very strongly of tobacco, and held in one hand a roll of paper, and in the other a card. The card was a fac-simile of the one I had received on the previous night. I knew my fate. I knew that I was in the presence of an unmistakable lunatic. There was madness in every line of his countenance, in every movement of his limbs and body; nay, in every thread of his attire. Having rung the bell, I desired him to sit down, that I might make the best of him, and get rid of him with all possible celerity.

"I was determined to see you," he said, in very good English, but with a German accent that betrayed his origin. "I have been watching your arrival for three months. You came over in the Asia. I saw it announced. You dined with the President. You should not have done that. Excuse me, but 'Old Buck' is not the right man. He knows nothing of poetry. But let him slide! I am right glad to welcome you to Baltimore."

I endeavored to look pleased; and as politely and as blandly as I could, I thanked him for his courtesy, and asked him his business with me.

"You are a prince of poets," he said. "So am I. I am the greatest poet of America—perhaps the greatest in the world. Now, I want you to do me a favor."

Here the bell was answered, and a negro entered.

"Wait a minute or two," said I. "I will attend to you when I have done with this gentleman. And what is the favor?" I inquired.

"To read this MS.," he said, "and give me your opinion of it. It is poetical, musical, philosophical, and astrological. It is the grandest work ever written in this continent. But, sir, the editors here are such fools; there is not one of them fit to clean boots. They refuse to look at my works. And the President of the United States is no better than they are. He knows no more of poetry than a pig; and as for music, sir, I don't believe he knows the difference between a grunt and a psalm."

The Eccelentissimo Herr here proceeded to unfold his MS., which was very dirty and spotted with tobacco-juice. It was all covered with hieroglyphics, astrological signs, musical notation, algebraic formulæ, and odds and ends of sentences—partly in German and partly in Italian text; sometimes written across the page, and sometimes down, in Chinese fashion.

"I am very sorry," said I, "that I cannot read your composition; I am too ignorant—too utterly uninstructed in the symbols you use."

"Oh, that will not signify," he replied; "I will read it for you. In fact, I have come on purpose. It is an oratorio as well as a poem, and some of the best passages will have to be sung. Would you like to hear them?"

I fancy that I must have looked alarmed at the prospect; for he said, with great good nature,

"Not now, if it will distress you, or if you are busy. But I must absolutely have your opinion within a day or two. The work, I am sure, is magnificent; and, if you will only have the kindness to say so publicly, all Europe and all America will believe you. You are going to Europe soon?"

I nodded assent.

"That is lucky. I will go with you, and then I shall be able to read my poem to you on the passage. When we get to London I shall ask you to introduce me to the Queen. I have heard she is very fond of poetry."

"I have not the honor of being known to her Majesty," I replied; "and if I had, I could not introduce you. The American Ambassador in London would be the proper person."

"I don't believe in Ambassadors. They are all humbugs; they know nothing except how to tell lies. But did you say that you were not personally known to the Queen?"

"I have not that honor and privilege."

"Excuse me, stranger," he said, slowly and emphatically, "when I say that won't do. You can't sell Brother Jonathan in that manner."

"I really do not know the Queen; nor does the Queen, as far as I am aware, know me."

"What! the Queen of England not know all about the poets of her own country? I am certain the Queen of England knows me—the 'Prince of Poets of America.'"

"Quite certain?" hinted I.

"Oh, quite certain," he replied. "I have written to her about my oratorio, but she never answered the letter. But I shall go to England and see the Queen. Music and poetry are properly rewarded there; and you shall introduce me to her, to Lord Palmerston, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, and all the rest of them."

"What does massa please to want?" chimed in the negro waiter at this moment.

"I want you to order me a carriage; I have a very particular engagement."

"Excuse me," I added, turning to the Eccelentissimo Herr Alphonso, Prince of Poets, "if I am obliged to go away. I shall perhaps have the pleasure of seeing you again—next week."

"Do you stay a whole week in Baltimore? Then I shall make it a point to call upon you every day. You will thus have opportunities of reading my poetry and my oratorio. There is nothing like them in the whole world. Stupid America! and still stupider Baltimore! But it is not so much the fault of Baltimore or of America as of the dough-faced editors! But you, sir, must know me better. Look here!" and he again spread forth his greasy, tobacco-spotted manuscript, and pointed to a passage which it was utterly impossible to decipher. "Look here! and tell me if the man who wrote that is not worth a thousand editors?"

He looked so wild as he spoke that I thought it good policy to coincide in his opinion touching editors. If he had been Queen of Great Britain or Emperor of all the Russias, I could not have treated him with greater courtesy and deference. He was evidently pleased.

"Come again another day," I said.

"This evening?" he asked.

"No; I am particularly engaged."

"To morrow morning?"

"I shall be very busy."

"To-morrow evening?"

"I will write to you whenever I can conveniently fix the time."

"Ah!" he said, with a deep sigh, "I am afraid you are no better than the rest of them. You do not want to read my poetry?"

I was in a dilemma. I did not wish to tell a lie, even to a madman, even were the lie as white as snow. There was no way of getting out of the perplexity, unless by humoring him till the carriage was ready—a carriage that I did not want, but for the arrival of which I began to grow impatient.

For ten minutes, that seemed to have lengthened themselves out to ten hours, I had to play with this lunatic, to watch every change in his wild countenance, and to be constantly on the alert lest his madness should take a turn unfavorable to my safety, for he kept fumbling with his right hand under his waistcoat in a manner that suggested the possibility of a concealed bowie-knife or revolver. But, by dint of assumed unconcern and great politeness, I managed to parley with him without giving him offence or exciting his suspicions. When the carriage was announced, he walked with me through the lobbies and hall, saw me safely into it, kissed his hand to me, waved his manuscript in the air, and said, "To-morrow!"

On my return I took especial care to arrange with the landlord for my future freedom from all intrusion on the part of the Eccelentissimo Herr and Prince of Poets, and was informed that though very troublesome he was harmless; that he went every day to the hotels to ascertain the arrivals, by inspection of the hotel books, and that, if he found a name of which he had ever before heard, whether in politics, literature, music, or the drama, he sought out the distinguished stranger, and requested his attention to his poem and oratorio. He raved more particularly about the Queen of England, and imagined that if he could see her his merits would be acknowledged by all America, and especially by the Baltimore editors—all of whom he pronounced to be "dough faces," "muffs," and "white niggers." I saw no more of him; but he called at least a dozen times, and finally declared his solemn conviction that I also was a "white nigger," a despiser of poetry, and one not worthy to be known to the Queen of England; but that when M. Thalberg (then expected) came to Baltimore he would then find a man of true genius who would appreciate his oratorio.

ABILITY OF THE PRESS.—Let us add, as another sign of the advanced state of our society, that the knowledge and scholarship manifested in the columns of the higher class of the newspaper press, whether in Europe or America, are equal now to the famous literary authorship of other times. What a reputation was attained by Junius on account of a few newspaper articles in the London *Public Advertiser!* And yet many a leading column of the better journals of England, France, Germany, Spain, Italy and the United States, comes before us every day, and passes off without our special note, and with no individual fame to its author, though it be higher in composition and purer in spirit than is anything by the hand of Junius.—*Speech of Caleb Cushing.*

SHREWD WRITERS.—The people who write shrewdly are often the most easy to impose upon, or have been so. I almost suspect, without, however, having looked into the matter, that Rochefoucault was a tender lover, a warm friend, and, in general, a dupe (happy for him) to all the impulses and affections which he would have us imagine he saw through and had mastered.

The simple write shrewdly, but do not describe what they do. And the hard and worldly would be too wise in their generation, to write about what they practice, even if they perceived it, which they seldom do—lacking delicacy and imagination.—*Arthur Helps.*

☞ There is nothing so bad which will not admit of something to be said in its defence.—*Sterne.*

☞ WOMAN'S POLITICS—Marriage.—*Punch.*

THE MIDSHIPMAN'S THREE DINNERS.—I do not think there is any harm in putting the following story on record. It was told me, many years ago, by the hero of it, my very valued friend, Captain (afterwards Admiral Sir Francis) Beaufort. There are many men in whose mouths such a story would pass for a flourish, but all who knew Sir Francis Beaufort, also knew how singularly and eminently free he was from all disposition to exaggerate. In fact, nothing but the notoriety of his character in this respect, and in several others which tend the same way, would justify the publication. To gain him the reputation of a mender of good stories would be rather a difficult task. The oddity of the circumstance struck me so much that I remember the details and almost the phrases.

We were talking of a midshipman's appetite as a thing which bears a high character for energy and punctuality, and Captain Beaufort said it had never been fully tried how many dinners a midshipman could eat in one day. "I," said he, "got as far as three." I begged to know the particulars, and he gave them as follows: "I had eaten my dinner at the midshipmen's table, and a very good one, as I always did. After it, the captain's steward came up and said, 'The captain's compliments, and desires the favor of your company to dinner.' 'But I've dined,' said I. 'For mercy's sake, don't say that, sir,' said he, 'for I shall be in a scrape if you do; I ought to have asked you this morning, but I forgot.' So I thought I must go; and two hours afterwards I did go, and I dined, and think I made my usual good dinner. Just as we rose from the table a signal was made by the admiral to send an officer on board, and as it was my turn, I had to go off in the boat. When I got on board the admiral's ship, the admiral said to me, 'Ah, Mr. Beaufort, I believe; the papers you are to take back will not be ready this half hour; but I am just sitting down to dinner, and shall be glad of your company.' Now, you know, as to a midshipman refusing to dine with the admiral, there are not the words for it in the naval dictionary; so I sat down to my third dinner, and I am sure I did very well, and I got back to my own ship just in time for tea."

DINING WITH A BISHOP.—One of our leading prelates not long ago invited to his hospitable mansion in London a country rector, an old friend from one of the remote provinces. The simple-minded gentleman came about five o'clock, having a notion that he should arrive about the dinner hour. Soon after he had taken his seat, tea was brought round.

"Well," thought the rector, "this is bare living, at any rate; if I had known, I would have had a beefsteak at a chop house before I came; but I hardly expected that a bishop would dine at one o'clock. Is it a feast day, I wonder?"

He drank his tea, however, and said nothing.

About half-past seven o'clock, his bed candle was placed in his hand, and he was conducted to his sleeping room. "Call you this London?" he soliloquized; "why, I should have fared far better at Silverton; I should have had my comfortable mutton chop, and my glass of beer at nine o'clock, and I should have been in bed at ten, well fed and contented. But here I am, half-starved in the midst of splendor—as hungry as a hunter—almost ready to devour my blankets, like the boa constrictor—ha! ha!—and where everything looks so grand! Well, fine furniture won't make a man fat; give me substantial victuals, and you may take the gilding." Soliloquizing in this fashion, he undressed himself, pulled over his ears his cotton nightcap, "with a tassel on the top," as the song says, and crept into bed, coiling himself up comfortably; and, being of a forgiving temper, he soon forgot his troubles, and sank into his first sleep as sweetly as a "christom child;" when, lo! after a while, bells begin to ring, and a smart knock at his door resounds through his room, and a voice is heard saying, "Dinner is on the table, sir!"

The old gentleman awoke in considerable confusion, not knowing whether it was to-day or to-morrow; and, according to the most authentic account, he appeared shortly after at the dinner table, though in a somewhat ruffled condition as relates to his wardrobe, and mentally in a haze of uncertainty as to the day of the week, and the meal he was eating.—*Fraser's Mag. for Nov.*

COMPOSITION OF THE HUMAN BODY.—It is ascertained that a man of 154 pounds weight contains 116 pounds of water, and only 38 pounds of dry matter. From his skin and from his lungs water is continually evaporating. Were the air around him perfectly dry, his skin would become parched and shrivelled, and thirst would oppress his feverish frame. The air which he breathes from his lungs is loaded with moisture. Were that which he draws in entirely free from watery vapor, he would soon breathe out the fluids which fill up his tissues, and would dry up into a withered and ghastly mummy. It is because the simoom and other hot winds of the desert approach to this state of dryness, that they are so fatal to those who travel in the arid waste. Professor Quetelet states that of the 38 pounds of dry matter in the model man, 24 pounds are flesh and fat, and 14 pounds bone; 28 pounds are organic matter, combustible, and 10 pounds mineral matter, incombustible. If a hundred pounds of human blood be rendered perfectly dry, by a heat not much exceeding that of boiling water, it will be reduced in weight to somewhat less than 22 pounds.

THE POPULAR VERDICT.—At present, the little ragged urchins of London have a distich with which they salute every pedestrian lady whose petticoats exhibit the ample rotundity of the present fashion. The verse runs thus:—

"Ladies' legs *am* grown so thin,
Them's forced to wear the crin-o-lin."

☞ Wisdom allows nothing to be good, that will not be so forever; no man to be happy, but he that needs no other happiness than what is within himself; no man to be great or powerful, that is not master of himself.—*Seneca.*

☞ A NEW READING.—My friend, endeavor to do your duty in that station of life to which it has pleased Fate to *kick* you.

THE CRADLE SONG OF THE POOR.

Hush! I cannot bear to see thee
Stretch thy hands in vain;
I have got no bread to give thee,
Nothing, child, to ease thy pain
When God sent thee first to bless me,
Proud, and thankful, too, was I;
Now, my darling, I, thy mother,
Almost long to see thee die.
Sleep, my darling, thou art weary;
God is good, but life is dreary.

I have watched thy beauty fading,
And thy strength sink day by day;
Soon, I know, will want and fever
Take thy little life away.
Famine makes thy father reckless,
Hope has left both him and me;
We could suffer all, my baby,
Had we but a crust for thee.
Sleep, my darling, thou art weary;
God is good, but life is dreary.

Better thou shouldst perish early,
Starve so soon, my darling one,
Than live to want, to sin, to struggle
Vainly, still, as I have done.
Better that thy angel spirit
With my joy, my peace, were flown,
Than thy heart grow cold and careless,
Reckless, hopeless, like my own.
Sleep, my darling, thou art weary;
God is good, but life is dreary.

I am wasted, dear, with hunger,
And my brain is all oppress,
I have scarcely strength to press thee,
Wan and feeble to my breast.
Patience baby, God will help us,
Death will come to thee and me,
He will take us to his heaven,
Where no want or pain can be.
Sleep, my darling, thou art weary;
God is good, but life is dreary.

Such the plaint, that late and early,
Did we listen, we might hear
Close beside us—but the thunder
Of a city dulls our ear.
Every heart, like God's bright angel,
Can bid one such sorrow cease;
God has glory when his children
Bring his poor ones joy and peace!
Listen, nearer while she sings,
Sounds the fluttering of wings.

ANECDOTE OF FAUNTLEROY, THE FORGER.

FROM DICKENS'S "HOUSEHOLD WORDS."

It was certainly a dull little dinner-party. Of the four guests, two of us were men between fifty and sixty, and two of us were youths, between eighteen and twenty; and we had no subjects in common. We were all intimate with our host; but we were only slightly acquainted with each other. I think we should have got on better if there had been some ladies among us; but the master of the house as a bachelor, and, except the parlor-maid, who assisted in waiting on us at dinner, no daughter of Eve was present to brighten the dreary scene. We tried all sorts of subjects; but they dropped in the most disastrous manner, one after the other. The elder gentlemen seemed to be afraid of committing themselves, by talking too freely within hearing of us juniors; and we, on our side, restrained our youthful flow of spirits and youthful freedom of conversation, out of deference to our host, who seemed once or twice to be feeling a little nervous about the continued propriety of our behaviour in the presence of his respectable guests. To make matters worse, we had dined at a sensible hour. When the bottles made their first round, at dessert, the clock on the mantle-piece only struck eight. I counted the strokes; and felt certain, from the expression of his face, that the other junior guest, who sat on one side of me at the round table, was counting them also. When we came to the final eight, we exchanged looks of despair.

"Two hours more of this! What on earth is to become of us?"

In the language of the eyes, that was exactly what we said to each other.

The wine was excellent; and I think we all came, separately and secretly, to the same conclusion—that our chance of getting through the evening was intimately connected with our resolution in getting through the bottles. The port was of some famous vintage, I forget which; the Madeira was forty years old; the claret was a present from Bordeaux. As a matter of course we talked wine. No company of Englishmen can assemble together for an evening without doing that. Every man in this country who is rich enough to pay income tax, has, at one time or other in his life, effected a very remarkable transaction in wine. Sometimes he has made such a bargain as he never expects to make again. Sometimes he is the only man in England, not a peer of the realm, who has got a single drop of a certain famous vintage, which has perished from the face of the earth. Sometimes he has purchased, with a friend, a few last left dozens from the cellar of a deceased potentate, at a price so exorbitant, that he can only wag his head and decline mentioning it—and, if you ask his friend, that friend will wag his head and decline mentioning it also. Sometimes he has been at an out-of-the-way country inn; has found the sherry not drinkable; has asked if there is no other wine in the house; has been informed that there is some "sourish foreign stuff that nobody ever drinks;" has called for a bottle of it; has found it Burgundy, such as all France cannot now produce: has cunningly kept his own counsel with the widowed landlady, and has bought the whole stock for "an old song." Sometimes he knows the proprietor of a famous tavern in London; and he recommends his one or two particulars friends, the next time they are passing that way, to go in and dine, and give his compliments to the landlord, and ask for a bottle of the brown sherry, with the light blue—as distinguished from the dark blue—seal. Thousands of people dine there every year, and think they have got the famous sherry when they get the dark-blue seal; but—and, by no means, let it go any farther—the real wine, the famous wine, is the light blue seal; and nobody in England knows it but the landlord and his friends. In all these wine-conversations, whatever variety there may be in the various experiences related, one of two great first principles is invariably assumed by each speaker in succession. Either he knows more about it than any one else—or he has got better wine of his own even than the excellent wine he is now drinking. Men can get together, sometimes, without talking of women, without talking of horses, without talking of politics; but they cannot assemble to eat a meal together without talking of wine; and they cannot talk of wine without assuming to each one of themselves an absolute infallibity in connection with that single subject, which they would shrink from asserting in relation to any other topic under the sun.

How long the inevitable wine-talk lasted, on the particular social occasion of which I am now writing, is more than I can undertake to say. I had heard so many other conversations of the same sort, at so many other tables, that my attention wandered away wearily; and I began to forget all about the dull little dinner party, and the badly-assorted company of guests of whom I formed one. How long I remained in this not over-courteous condition of mental oblivion, is more than I can tell. But when my attention was recalled, in due course of time, to the little world around me, I found that the good wine had begun to do its good office. The stream of talk, on either side of the host's chair, was beginning to flow cheerfully and continuously; the wine-conversation had worn itself out; and one of the elder guests—Mr. Wendell—was occupied in telling the other elder guest—Mr. Trowbridge—of a small fraud which had been lately committed on him by a clerk in his employment. The first part of the story I missed altogether. The last part, which alone caught my attention, followed the career of the clerk to the dock of the Old Bailey.

"So, as I was telling you," continued Mr. Wendell, "I made up my mind to prosecute; and I did prosecute. Thoughtless people blamed me for sending the young man to prison, and said I might just as well have forgiven him, seeing that the trifling sum of money I had lost by his breach of trust was barely as much as ten pounds. Of course, personally speaking, I would much rather not have gone into court; but I considered that my duty to society in general, and to my brother-merchants in particular, absolutely compelled me to prosecute for the sake of example. I acted on that principle, and don't regret that I did so. The circumstances under which the man robbed me were particularly disgraceful. He was a hardened reprobate, sir, if ever there was one yet; and I believe, in my conscience, that he wanted nothing but the opportunity, to be as great a villain as Fauntleroy himself."

At the moment when Mr. Wendell personified his idea of consummate villany by quoting the example of Fauntleroy, I saw the other middle-aged gentleman—Mr. Trowbridge—color up on a sudden, and begin to fidget in his chair.

"The next time you want to produce an instance of a villain, sir," said Mr. Trowbridge, "I wish you could contrive to quote some other example than Fauntleroy."

Mr. Wendell, naturally enough, looked excessively astonished when he heard these words; which were very firmly, and at the same time, very politely addressed to him.

"May I inquire why you object to my example?" he asked.

"I object to it, sir," said Mr. Trowbridge, "because it makes me very uncomfortable to hear Fauntleroy called a villain."

"Good heavens above!" exclaimed Mr. Wendell, utterly bewildered. "Uncomfortable!—you, a mercantile man like myself—you, whose character stands so high everywhere—you, uncomfortable, when you hear a man who was hanged for forgery called a villain! In the name of wonder—why?"

"Because," answered Mr. Trowbridge, with perfect composure, "Fauntleroy was a friend of mine."

"Excuse me, my dear sir," retorted Mr. Wendell, in as polished a tone of sarcasm as he could command—"but of all the friends whom you have made in the course of your useful and honorable career, I should have thought the friend you have just mentioned would have been the very last to whom you were likely to refer, in respectable society—at least, by name."

"Fauntleroy committed an unpardonable crime, and died a disgraceful death," said Mr. Trowbridge. "But, for all that, Fauntleroy was a friend of mine; and in that character I shall always acknowledge him boldly to my dying day. I have a tenderness for his memory, though he violated a sacred trust, and died for it on the gallows. Don't look shocked, Mr. Wendell. I will tell you, and our other friends here, if they will let me, why I feel that tenderness, which looks so strange and so discreditable in your eyes. It is rather a curious anecdote, sir; and has an interest, I think, for all observers of human nature, quite apart from its connection with the unhappy man of whom we have been talking. You young gentlemen," continued Mr. Trowbridge, addressing himself to us juniors, "have heard of Fauntleroy, though he sinned and suffered, and shocked all England, long before your time!"

We answered that we had certainly heard of him, as one of the famous criminals of his day. We knew that he had been a partner in a great London banking-house; that he had not led a very virtuous life; that he had possessed himself, by forgery, of trust-moneys which he was doubly bound to respect; and that he had been hanged for his offence, in the year eighteen hundred and twenty-four, when the gallows was still set up for other crimes than murder, and when Jack Ketch was in fashion as one of the hard-working reformers of the age.

"Very good," said Mr. Trowbridge. "You both of you know quite enough of Fauntleroy to be interested in what I am going to tell you. When the bottles have been round the table, I will start with my story."

The bottles went round—claret for the degenerate youngsters; port for the sterling, steady-headed, middle-aged gentlemen. Mr. Trowbridge sipped his wine—meditated a little—sipped again—and started with the promised anecdote, in these terms:

What I am going to tell you, gentlemen, happened when I was a very young man, and when I was just setting up in business on my own account. My father had been well acquainted for many years with Mr. Fauntleroy, of the famous London banking-firm of Marsh, Stracey, Fauntleroy and Graham. Thinking it might be of some future service to me to make my position known to a great man in the commercial world, my father mentioned to his highly-respected friend that I was about to start in business for myself, in a very small way, and with very little money. Mr. Fauntleroy received the intimation with a kind appearance of interest; and said that he would have his eye on me. I expected from this that he would wait to see if I could keep on my legs at starting; and that, if he found I succeeded pretty well, he would then help me forward, if it lay in his power. As events turned out, he proved to be a far better friend than that; and he soon showed me that I had very much underrated the hearty and generous interest which he had felt in my welfare from the first.

While I was still fighting with the first difficulties of setting up my office, and recommending myself to my connection, and so forth, I got a message from Mr. Fauntleroy, telling me to call on him, at the banking-house, the first time I was passing that way. As you may easily imagine, I contrived to be passing that way on a particularly early occasion; and, on presenting myself at the bank, I was shown at once into Mr. Fauntleroy's private room.

He was as pleasant a man to speak to as ever I met with—bright and gay and companionable in his manner—with a sort of easy, hearty, jovial bluntness about him that attracted everybody. The clerks all liked him—and that is something to say of a partner in a banking-house, I can tell you!

"Well, young Trowbridge," says he, giving his papers on the table a brisk push away from him, "so you are going to set up in business for yourself, are you? I have a great regard for your father, and a great wish to see you succeed. Have you started yet? No? Just on the point of beginning—eh? Very good. You will have your difficulties, my friend—and I mean to smooth one of them away for you at the outset. A word of advice for your private ear—Bank with us."

"You are very kind, sir," I answered, "and I should ask nothing better than to profit by your suggestion—if I could. But my expenses are heavy at starting, and when they are all paid, I am afraid I shall have very little left to put by for the first year. I doubt if I shall be able to muster much more than three hundred pounds of surplus cash in the world, after paying what I must pay, before I set up my office. And I should be ashamed to trouble your house, sir, to open an account for such a trifle as that."

"Stuff and nonsense!" says Mr. Fauntleroy. "Are you a banker? What business have you to offer an opinion on the matter? Do as I tell you—leave it to me—bank with us—and draw for what you like. Stop! I haven't done yet. When you open the account, speak to the head cashier. Perhaps you may find he has got something to tell you. There! there! go away—don't interrupt me—good-bye—God bless you!"

That was his way. Ah, poor fellow! that was his way!

I went to the head cashier the next morning, when I opened my little modicum of an account. He had received orders to pay my drafts without reference to my balance. My cheques, when I had overdrawn, were to be privately shown to Mr. Fauntleroy. Do many young men who start in business find their prosperous superiors ready to help them in that way?

Well, I got on—got on very fairly and steadily; being careful not to venture out of my depth, and not to forget that small beginnings may lead in time to great ends. A prospect of one of those great ends—great, I mean, to such a small trader as I was at that period—showed itself to me, when I had been some little time in business. In plain terms, I had a chance of joining in a first-rate transaction, which would give me profit and position and everything I wanted, provided I could qualify myself for engaging in it by getting good security beforehand for a very large amount.

In this emergency, I thought of my kind friend, Mr. Fauntleroy, and went to the bank, and saw him once more in his private room.

There he was at the same table, with the same heaps of papers about him, and the same hearty, easy way of speaking his mind to you at once, in the fewest possible words. I explained the business I came upon, with some little hesitation and nervousness; for I was afraid he might think that I was taking an unfair advantage of his former kindness to me. When I had done, he just nodded his head, snatched up a blank sheet of paper, scribbled a few lines on it, in his rapid way, handed the writing to me, and pushed me out of the room by the two shoulders before I could say a single word. I looked at the paper in the outer office. It was my security from that great banking-house for the whole amount, and for more, if more was wanted.

I could not express my gratitude then; and I don't know that I can describe it now. I can only say that it has outlived the crime, the disgrace, and the awful death on the scaffold. I am grieved to speak of that death at all. But I have no other alternative. The course of my story must now lead me straight on to the later time, and to the terrible discovery which exposed my benefactor and my friend to all England as the forger Fauntleroy.

I must ask you to suppose a lapse of some time after the occurrence of the events that I have just been relating. During this interval, thanks to the kind assistance I had received at the outset, my position as a man of business had greatly improved. Imagine me now, if you please, on the high road to prosperity, with good large offices and a respectable staff of clerks; and picture me to yourselves sitting alone in my private room, between four and five o'clock, on a certain Saturday afternoon.

All my letters had been written, all the people who had appointments with me had been received—I was looking carelessly over the newspaper, and thinking about going home, when one of my clerks came in, and said that a stranger wished to see me immediately on very important business.

"Did he mention his name?" I inquired.

"No, sir."

"Did you not ask him for it?"

"Yes, sir. And he said you would be none the wiser if he told me what it was."

"Does he look like a begging letter writer?"

"He looks a little shabby, sir; but he doesn't talk at all like a begging-letter writer. He spoke sharp and decided, sir—and said that it was in your interests that he came, and that you would deeply regret it afterwards if you refused to see him."

"He said that, did he? Show him in at once, then."

He was shown in immediately. A middling-sized man, with a sharp, unwholesome-looking face, and with a flippant, reckless manner; dressed in a style of shabby smartness; eyeing me with a bold look; and not so overburdened with politeness as to trouble himself about taking off his hat when he came in. I had never seen him before in my life; and I could not form the slightest conjecture from his appearance to guide me towards guessing his position in the world. He was not a gentleman, evidently; but as to fixing his whereabouts in the infinite downward gradations of vagabond existence in London, that was a mystery which I was totally incompetent to solve.

"Is your name Trowbridge?" he began.

"Yes," I answered, drily enough.

"Do you bank with Marsh, Stracey, Fauntleroy and Graham?"

"Why do you ask?"

"Answer my question, and you will know!"

"Very well, I *do* bank with Marsh, Stracey, Fauntleroy and Graham—and what then?"

"Draw out every farthing of balance you have got, before the bank closes at five to-day."

I stared at him in speechless amazement. The words, for the instant, absolutely petrified me.

"Stare as much as you like," he proceeded, coolly, "I mean what I say. Look at your clock there. In twenty minutes it will strike five, and the bank will be shut. Draw out every farthing, I tell you, again; and look sharp about it."

"Draw out my money?" I exclaimed, partially recovering myself. "Are you in your right senses? Do you know that the firm I bank with represents one of the first houses in the world? What do you mean—you, who are a total stranger to me—by taking this extraordinary interest in my affairs? If you want me to act on your advice, why don't you explain yourself?"

"I have explained myself. Act on my advice, or not, just as you like. It don't matter to me. I have done what I promised; and there's an end of it."

He turned to the door. The minute hand of the clock was getting on from the twenty minutes to the quarter.

"Done what you promised?" I repeated, getting up to stop him.

"Yes," he said, with his hand on the lock. "I have given my message. Whatever happens, remember that. Good-afternoon."

He was gone before I could speak again. I tried to call after him, but my lips had suddenly got dry, and the words seemed to stick on them. I could not imagine why, but there was something in the man's last words which had more than half frightened me.

I looked at the clock. The minute hand was on the quarter. My office was just far enough from the bank to make it necessary for me to decide on the instant. If I had had time to think, I am perfectly certain that I should not have profited by the extraordinary warning that had just been addressed to me. The suspicious appearance and manners of the stranger; the outrageous improbability of the inference against the credit of the bank towards which his words pointed; the chance that some underhand attempt was being made, by some enemy of mine, to frighten me into embroiling myself with one of my best friends, through showing an ignorant distrust of the firm with which he was associated as partner—all these considerations would unquestionably have occurred to me if I could have found time for reflection; and, as a necessary consequence, not one farthing of my balance would have been taken from the keeping of the bank on that memorable day.

As it was, I had just time enough to act, and not a spare moment for thinking. Some heavy payments made at the beginning of the week had so far decreased my balance, that the sum to my credit in the banking-book barely reached fifteen hundred pounds. I snatched up my cheque-book, wrote a draft for the whole amount, and ordered one of my clerks to run to the bank and get it cashed before the doors closed. What impulse urged me on, except the blind impulse of hurry and bewilderment, I can't say. I acted mechanically, under the influence of the vague, inexplicable fear which the man's extraordinary parting words had aroused in me, without stopping to analyse my own sensations—almost without knowing what I was about. In three minutes from the time when the stranger had closed my door, the clerk had started for the bank; and I was alone in my room, with my hands as cold as ice, and my head all in a whirl.

I did not recover my control over myself until the clerk came back with the notes in his hand. He had just got to the bank in the nick of time. As the cash for my draft was handed to him over the counter, the clock struck five, and he heard the order given to close the doors.

When I had counted the bank-notes and had locked them up in the safe, my better sense seemed to come back to me on a sudden. Never have I reproached myself before or since, as I reproached myself at that moment. What sort of return had I made for Mr. Fauntleroy's fatherly kindness to me? I had insulted him by the meanest, the grossest distrust of the honor and the credit of his house—and that on the word of an absolute stranger, of a vagabond, if ever there was one yet! It was madness, downright madness in any man, to have acted as I had done. I could not account for my own inconceivably thoughtless proceeding. I could hardly believe in it myself. I opened the safe, and looked at the bank-notes again. I locked it once more, and flung the key down on the table in a fury of vexation against myself. There the money was, upbraiding me with my own inconceivable folly; telling me in the plainest terms that I had risked depriving myself of my best and kindest friend henceforth and for ever.

It was necessary to do something at once towards making all the atonement that lay in my power. I felt that, as soon as I began to cool down a little. There was but one plain, straightforward way left now out of the scrape in which I had been mad enough to involve myself. I took my hat, and, without stopping an instant to hesitate, hurried off to the bank to make a clean breast of it to Mr. Fauntleroy.

When I knocked at the private door, and asked for him, I was told that he had not been at the bank for the last two days. One of the other partners was there, however, and was working at that moment in his own room. I sent in my name, at once, and asked to see him. He and I were little better than strangers to each other; and the interview was likely to be, on that account, unspeakably embarrassing and humiliating on my side. Still, I could not go home. I could not endure the inaction of the next day, the Sunday, without having done my best on the spot, to repair the error into which my own folly had led me. Uncomfortable as I felt at the prospect of the approaching interview, I should have been far more uneasy in my mind if the partner had declined to see me.

To my relief, the bank-porter returned with a message requesting me to walk in. What particular form my explanations and apologies took when I tried to offer them, is more than I can tell now. I was so confused and distressed that I hardly knew what I was talking about at the time. The one circumstance which I remember clearly is that I was ashamed to refer to my interview with the strange man; and that I tried to account for my sudden withdrawal of my balance by referring it to some inexplicable panic, caused by mischievous reports which I was unable to trace to their source, and which, for anything I knew to the contrary, might, after all, have been only started in jest. Greatly to my surprise, the partner did not seem to notice the lamentable lameness of my excuses, and did not additionally confuse me by asking any questions. A weary, absent look, which I had observed on his face, when I came in, remained on it, while I was speaking. It seemed to be an effort to him, even to keep up the appearance of listening to me. And when, at last, I fairly broke down in the middle of a sentence, and gave up the hope of getting any farther, all the answer he gave me was comprised in these few civil, common-place words:—

"Never mind, Mr. Trowbridge; pray don't think of apologizing. We are all liable to make mistakes. Say nothing more about it: and bring the money back on Monday if you still honor us with your confidence."

He looked down at his papers, as if he was anxious to be alone again; and I had no alternative, of course, but to take my leave immediately. I went home, feeling a little easier in my mind, now that I had paved the way for making the best practical atonement in my power, by bringing my balance back the first thing on Monday morning. Still, I passed a weary day on Sunday, reflecting, sadly enough, that I had not yet made my peace with Mr. Fauntleroy. My anxiety to set myself right with my generous friend was so intense, that I risked intruding myself on his privacy by calling at his town residence on the Sunday. He was not there, and his servant could tell me nothing of his whereabouts. There was no help for it now but to wait till his week-day duties brought him back to the bank.

I went to business on Monday morning, half-an hour earlier than usual, so great was my impatience to restore the amount of that unlucky draft to my account, as soon as possible after the bank opened. On entering my office, I stopped with a startled feeling, just inside the door. Something serious had happened.—The clerks, instead of being at their desks as usual, were all huddled together in a group, talking to each other with blank faces. When they saw me, they fell back behind my managing man, who stepped forward with a circular in his hand.

"Have you heard the news, sir?" he said.

"No—what is it?"

He handed me the circular. My heart gave one violent throb the instant I looked at it, I felt myself turn pale; I felt my knees trembling under me.

Marsh, Stracey, Fauntleroy and Graham had stopped payment.

"The circular has not been issued more than half-an-hour," continued my managing clerk. "I have just come from the bank, sir. The doors are shut—there is no doubt about it. Marsh and Company have stopped this morning."

I hardly heard him; hardly knew who was talking to me. My strange visitor of the Saturday had taken instant possession of all my thoughts; and his words of warning seemed to be sounding once more in my ears. This man had known the true condition of the bank, when not another soul outside the doors was aware of it! The last draft paid across the counter of that ruined house, when the doors closed on Saturday, was the draft that I had so bitterly reproached myself for drawing; the one balance saved from the wreck was my balance. Where had the stranger got the information that had saved me? and why had he brought it to my ears?

I was still groping, like a man in the dark, for an answer to those two questions—I was still bewildered by the unfathomable mystery of doubt into which they had plunged me, when the discovery of the stopping of the bank was followed almost immediately by a second shock, far more dreadful, far heavier to bear, so far as I was concerned, than the first. While I and my clerks were still discussing the failure of the firm, two mercantile men, who were friends of mine, ran into the office, and overwhelmed us with the news that one of the partners had been arrested for forgery. Never shall I forget the terrible Monday morning when those tidings reached me, and when I knew that the partner was Mr. Fauntleroy.

I was true to him—I can honestly say I was true to my belief in my generous friend—when that fearful news reached me. My fellow-merchants had got all the particulars of the arrest. They told me that two of Mr. Fauntleroy's fellow trustees had come up to London to make arrangements about selling out some stock. On inquiring for Mr. Fauntleroy at the banking-house, they had been informed that he was not there; and, after leaving a message for him, they had gone into the city to make an appointment with their stockbroker for a future day, when their fellow trustee might be able to attend. The stockbroker volunteered to make certain business inquiries on the spot, with a view to saving as much time as possible; and left them at his office to await his return. He came back, looking very much amazed, with the information that the stock had been sold out, down to the last five hundred pounds. The affair was instantly investigated; the document authorizing the selling out was produced; and the two trustees saw on it, side by side with Mr. Fauntleroy's signature, the forged signature of their own names. This happened on the Friday; and the trustees, without losing a moment, sent the officers of justice in pursuit of Mr. Fauntleroy. He was arrested, brought up before the magistrate, and remanded, on the Saturday. On the Monday I heard from my friends the particulars which I have just narrated.

But the events of that one morning were not destined to end, even yet. I had discovered the failure of the bank, and the arrest of Mr. Fauntleroy. I was next to be enlightened, in the strangest and the saddest manner, on the difficult question of his innocence or his guilt. Before my friends had left my office; before I had exhausted the arguments which my gratitude rather than my reason suggested to me, in favor of the unhappy prisoner, a note, marked immediate, was placed in my hands, which silenced me the instant I looked at it. It was written from the prison by Mr. Fauntleroy, and it contained two lines only, entreating me to apply for the necessary order, and to go and see him immediately.

I shall not attempt to describe the flutter of expectation, the strange mixture of dread and hope that agitated me, when I recognized his handwriting, and discovered what it was that he desired me to do. I obtained the order, and went to the prison. The authorities, knowing the dreadful situation in which he stood, were afraid of his attempting to destroy himself, and had set two men to watch him. One came out as they opened his cell-door. The other, who was bound not to leave him, very delicately and considerately affected to be looking out of the window the moment I was shown in.

He was sitting on the side of his bed, with his head drooping and his hands hanging listlessly over his knees, when I first caught sight of him. At the sound of my approach, he started to his feet, and, without speaking a word, flung both his arms round my neck.

My heart swelled up. "Tell me it's not true, sir! For God's sake, tell me it's not true!" was all I could say to him.

He never answered. Oh, me! he never answered, and he turned away his face.

There was one dreadful moment of silence. He still held his arms round my neck; and on a sudden he put his lips close to my ear.

"Did you get your money out?" he whispered. "Were you in time on Saturday afternoon?"

I broke free from him, in the astonishment of hearing those words.

"What!" I cried out loud, forgetting the third person at the window. "That man who brought the message—?"

"Hush!" he said, putting his hand on my lips. "There was no better man to be found, after the officers had taken me—I know no more about him than you do—I paid him well, as a chance messenger, and risked his cheating me of his errand."

"You sent him, then?"

"I sent him."

My story is over, gentlemen. There is no need for me to tell you that Mr. Fauntleroy was found guilty, and that he died by the hangman's hand. It was in my power to soothe his last moments in this world, by taking on myself the arrangement of some of his private affairs, which, while they remained unsettled weighed heavily on his mind. They had no connection with the crimes he had committed, so I could do him the last little service he was ever to accept at my hands, with a clear conscience. I say nothing in defence of his character, nothing in palliation of the offence for which he suffered. But I cannot forget that in the time of his most fearful extremity, when the strong arm of the law had already seized him, he thought of the young man whose humble fortunes he had helped to build; whose heartfelt gratitude he had fairly won; whose simple faith he was resolved never to betray. I leave it to greater intellects than mine to reconcile the anomaly of his reckless falsehood towards others, and his steadfast truth towards me. It is as certain as that we sit here, that one of Fauntleroy's last efforts in this world, was the effort he made to preserve me from being a loser by the trust that I had placed in him. There is the secret of my strange tenderness for the memory of a felon—that is why the word villain does somehow still grate on my heart, when I hear it associated with the name—the disgraced name, I grant you—of the forger, Fauntleroy. Pass the bottles, young gentlemen, and pardon a man of the old school for having so long interrupted your conversation with a story of the old time.

TRIAL BY TORTURE.—At the time of the trial of John Felton, who assassinated Buckingham, in 1628, King Charles wished to have him put to the rack, partly for punishment, but under pretence of discovering who had instigated him to the act. The judges, however, decided that there was no law in England which authorized the use of the torture. As it had been used often, it is to be presumed that this was the first, as it was the last, solemn adjudication upon the question by the bench. Felton, in his repentance, seemed to be desirous of the torture himself; for, at the trial, he stretched out his right arm, saying that it was that which did the deed, and desired that it might be cut off, "before he was done to." But the court replied that he should have only the law, and "*must be content with that*," and he met simply the appointed punishment of a murderer.

ROBERT OWEN.

The *N. Y. Evening Post* gives the following sketch of this somewhat famous character:—

Our dispatches by the Europa announce the death of Robert Owen—at one time, perhaps, the most famous man of his day. He was in the 88th year of his age, having been born in Wales in the year 1771. He distinguished himself quite early at school, but before he was eighteen he engaged in the cotton manufacturing business, into which he was instrumental in introducing the machinery of Arkwright, then a great improvement. His factories, called the Chorlton Mills, were situated near Manchester, and became very lucrative. But he was induced after a few years, to remove to New-Lanark, between Edinburgh and Glasgow, in Scotland, whose Arkwright had founded a number of factories, in connection with David Dale, an enterprising and benevolent man. Owen married the daughter of Dale, and was taken into the partnership. His sympathies in behalf of the working classes concurring with those of Dale, they commenced together a practical reform in regard to their dwelling-houses, their hours of labor, and the education of their children, which was conducted for some time under such flattering promises of success that it attracted the attention of philanthropists and statesmen in all parts of the world. As there were more than a thousand persons employed in the mills, about half of them under eighteen years of age, a fine field was presented for the display of their benevolent activities.

Owen succeeded, we believe, in shortening the duration of the children's labors, and in enabling them to attend his school, where the intellectual system, as it was called, or the system or teaching by objects, was first put in practice. In the evenings and on Sundays, the adults were instructed by lectures, objects, diagrams and books; so that the place soon put on a scholastic air, quite unusual in the manufacturing towns of Scotland or England. As Owen instituted, at the same time, a police, which, though it was carried on without punishments, was rigid, his community was regarded as a model community. He himself considered it so, and he began to commend it as an example for all the earth. The late Duke of Kent, father of the present Queen of Great Britain, became very much interested in Mr. Owen's experiments, and through his influence the aristocracy and clergy of England lent him their countenance. But, unfortunately, Mr. Owen connected his scheme for the practical improvement of the working classes with certain religious and social doctrines which soon deprived him of the support of those eminent orders. Adopting a grossly materialistic theory of life, he held that men were entirely the creatures of circumstances, and that all that was necessary for the thorough regeneration of society, was a change in its external conditions. Improve the circumstances by which the child is surrounded, he said, and you improve the child. All the difference which subsists between the most polished and kind-hearted man of a civilized, and the most rude and cruel man of a barbarous country, is a difference in their circumstances. The civilized man, placed in New Zealand, would have been a savage, and the New-Zealand savage, placed amid the means and appliances of an educated family of London or Paris, would have been a civilized man.

There was enough of truth—and of the most important truth—in Owen's theory to commend it to the attention of the world, and particularly of the classes for whose benefit it was specially intended. He was considered an oracle by them, and, indeed, the fame which he acquired, and the reputed success of his practical scheme attracted toward him the regards of sovereigns. The King of Prussia, we think it was, sent for him, and consulted him in respect to the establishment and management of model villages in Prussia. He lived also on terms of familiarity with the King of France, and he made several voyages to Mexico, at the request of the Government, to introduce his reforms into that country. On one of these visits (in 1828,) he requested from the Mexican Ministry the control of the States of Coahuila and Texas, for the purpose of testing his system of social organization on the largest scale. But, as those provinces were not within the gift of the Ministry, they offered him, as alternative, a district of some hundred and fifty miles in breadth on the Pacific coast, north of the Gulf of California. Mr. Owen, for some reason or other, did not accept it, and it is curious to remark, that, if he had, the gold mines of California would probably have been discovered twenty years before they were, and Mr. Owen become the richest man in all the world.

The riches, however, would not have tempted him from the prosecution of his scheme, in which he was indefatigable, making in behalf of it many voyages across the Atlantic, visiting the crowned heads and great ministers of Europe, and the Presidents of the North and South American Republics, writing in the newspapers and periodicals, and lecturing before associations and meetings. He was enabled to do all this, because his manufacturing experiment had brought him a fortune of half a million of dollars and more—all of which, we presume, he expended in his various benevolent projects.

In 1825, Mr. Owen purchased New-Harmony, in Indiana, which was owned by the Harmonists, a band of German Socialists, under Rapp, (since the founder of Economy, near Pittsburg,) and he made a trial of his system there with the assistance of his son, Robert Dale Owen, now our Minister at Naples. For awhile, we think, it flourished, even beyond the mark of western towns generally, but so far as it was a new experiment of social life, it failed.

Mr. Owen was the author of several books on social science, the principal of which were the "New Moral World," wherein he discussed his doctrines at length, in a simple and unpretending style, but with considerable clearness and vigor. He, was, in fact, a monomaniac on the subject of socialism; he talked of nothing else, wrote of nothing else, lived for nothing else; and, in almost any other cause, might have compelled success. Even in that he would have succeeded to a much larger extent, if he had not connected the practical provisions of it with an erroneous philosophy, and an avowed disbelief in Christianity. The latter, however, toward the close of his life, he yielded to, through the influence, it is said, of the "spiritual" communications.

Mr. Owen's last work was an Autobiography, which abounds in the most interesting details of his career.

He was a man of the kindliest nature, sincere and truthful, and of the most unreserving generosity, both in his judgments of men and in his conduct toward them. Nothing ever ruffled his temper; nothing could abate his energy; and, though he failed in the chief object of his long and busy life, it must still be said, to his credit, that he did more than any other man toward directing the attention of society in England to the melioration of the condition of the working classes.

LAST MOMENTS OF ROBERT OWEN—LETTER FROM HIS SON.—*From the Manchester Guardian, Nov. 20.*—The following particulars respecting the death of Robert Owen, which was announced in yesterday's Guardian, were given in a letter from the eldest son of the deceased, the Hon. Robert Dale Owen, Resident Minister from the United States to the Court of Naples, who happened to be on a visit to his father at the time of the latter's decease:

NEWTOWN, Montgomeryshire, Nov. 17, 1858.

My Dear Sir:—It is all over. My dear father passed away this morning, at a quarter before seven, and passed away as gently and quietly as if he had been falling asleep. There was not the least struggle, not a contraction of a limb or muscle, not an expression of pain on his face. His breathing gradually became slower and slower, till at last it ceased so imperceptibly that even as I held his hand I could scarcely tell the moment when he no longer breathed. His last words distinctly pronounced about twenty minutes before his death, were, "Relief has come." About half an hour before, he said, "Very easy and comfortable."

The last public appearance of Mr. Owen was at the late Social Science Congress at Liverpool. He stood between Lord Brougham and Lord John Russell. He spoke for a few minutes, when, his strength failing him, he was removed to the Victoria Hotel, where he remained for several days. He was accompanied by Mr. Rigby, who has acted as his secretary and man of business for the last thirty years. While at the hotel he expressed a determination to see his native town, and started next day, posting from Shrewsbury, as there was no railway. He only remained a few hours, returning to Liverpool, and after transacting some business went back again to Newtown. He told Mr. Rigby on the way, "I shall leave my bones where I got them." He died at the Boar's Head Hotel, and there is not a single inhabitant now alive in the place who was there when he left it, a child of ten years of age.

LETTER OF A DYING WIFE.—The following most touching fragment of a letter from a dying wife to her husband (says the Nashville Gazette), was found by him some months after her death, between the leaves of a religious volume which she was very fond of perusing. The letter, which was literally dim with her tear-marks, was written long before her husband was aware that the grasp of fatal disease had fastened upon the lovely form of his wife, who died at the early age of nineteen:—

"When this shall reach your eye, dear George, some day when you are turning over the relics of the past, I shall have passed away forever, and the cold white stone will be keeping its lonely watch over the lips you have so often pressed, and the sod will be growing green that shall hide forever from your sight the dust of one who has often nestled close to your warm heart. For many long and sleepless nights, when all beside my thoughts were at rest, I have wrestled with the consciousness of approaching death, until at last it has forced itself upon my mind; and although to you and to others it might now seem but the nervous imagining of a girl, yet, dear George, it is so! Many weary nights have I passed in the endeavor to reconcile myself to leaving you, whom I loved so well, and this bright world of sunshine and beauty; and hard indeed is it to struggle on silently and alone, with the sure conviction that I am about to leave all forever, and go down into the dark valley! 'But I know in whom I have believed,' and leaning on His arm 'I fear no evil.' Do not blame me for keeping even all this from you. How could I subject you, of all others, to such sorrow as I feel at parting, when time will soon make it apparent to you? I could have wished to live, if only to be at your side when your time shall come, and, pillowing your head on my breast, wipe the death-damps from your brow, and usher your departing spirit into its Maker's presence, embalmed in woman's holiest prayer. But it is not to be, and I submit. Yours is the privilege of watching, through long and dreary nights, for the spirit's final flight, and of transferring my sinking head from your breast to my Saviour's bosom! And you shall share my last thought, and the last faint pressure of the hand, and the last feeble kiss shall be yours, and even when flesh and heart shall have failed me, my eyes shall rest on yours until glazed by death; and our spirits shall hold one last communion until gently fading from my view—the last of earth—you shall mingle with the first bright glimpses of the unfading glories of the better world, where partings are unknown. Well do I know the spot, my dear George, where you will lay me; often we stood by the place, and as we watched the mellow sunset, as it glanced in quivering flashes through the leaves, and burnished the grassy mounds around us with stripes of burnished gold, each perhaps has thought that some day one of us would come alone, and whichever it might be, your name would be on the stone. But we loved the spot, and I know you will love it none the less when you see the same quiet sunlight linger and play among the grass that grows over your Mary's grave. I know you will go there, and my spirit will be with you then, and whisper among the waving branches,—'I am not lost, but gone before.'"

DOINGS OF THE NEGRO EMPEROR.—The *Chronique Parisienne* contains the following facetious story:

"The Emperor Faustin I., who imitates France in all things, and has, like her, princes, marshals, dukes, counts, colleges and universities, recently resolved to establish an academy of forty members, like the world renowned French Academy. But it was not easy to select the forty, every inhabitant of the empire who could write his own name thinking himself qualified. So his Majesty decreed that 3,000 of his subjects who possessed the reputation of being the most lettered of all, should, on a given day, assemble at his palace, and be subjected to a literary test. When they had collected, he announced that the test was the writing of the word *citron*, and that those who made no error in the spelling, should be members of the Academy. Pens, ink and paper were brought; each of the 3,000 people wrote the word, and the judges of the land and the bench of bishops were charged to examine the 3,000 papers. They proclaimed that 39 only of the candidates had written the word correctly—that is, with a C, the remaining 2 961 having used an S. 'Only thirty-nine!" cried the Emperor, 'and we want forty. Well, I will be the fortieth member myself.' 'Sire,' cried the judges, 'your Majesty will no doubt deign to submit to the test?' 'Of course,' exclaimed Faustin, and in a large, bold hand he wrote Xitron with an X. The judges looked puzzled for a moment, and then, after glancing at each other, proclaimed that his Majesty had passed triumphantly the ordeal. The Emperor was thereupon proclaimed, amidst the enthusiasm of the assemblage, a member of the Academy. 'And I will be perpetual Secretary, too,' added his Imperial Majesty, with pardonable vanity."

"GOT CHEATED."—Under this caption, the Kanawha (Va.) Valley Star tells the following story:

A colporteur, quite recently, in an adjoining county, approached a man whose name we will not make public, and solicited him to purchase a Bible. The man refused, and gave as his reason for so doing, that he had no money, and that he could not read. The colporteur ascertaining that he was a married man, and that he had no Bible, became anxious to leave one of his Bibles with him, and not being able to sell him one, offered to give the Bible to his fellow creature. The man hung down his head awhile, and seemed to ponder on the proposition, and finally agreed to take one, provided it was given to him. The colporteur gave the Bible; the man took it home and presented it to his wife, who could read a little. She examined the book very carefully, and gave it back, saying that only about half the book was the Bible, that the other half was something else, called the New Testament. The bright husband became enraged, and went in search of the colporteur, declaring that he had "got cheated," because the book was only half "Bible."

A LARGE CONTRACT.—The School Commissioners of Ohio have been empowered to contract with a New York publishing house for 20,000 volumes of works for the school libraries of the State, at a cost of $60,000.

NEWS ITEMS.

THE Memphis Advocate states that James B. Clay has sold the residence of Henry Clay, Ashland, for two hundred thousand acres of Texas land.

A CURIOUS BOOK.—The Providence Journal adduces facts and figures to show that Major Emory's Report upon the Mexican Boundary Commission has cost the National Treasury three times as much as all the books in the Astor Library, or more than $300,000.

A PROPHETIC VIEW.—Upon a tombstone in the churchyard of the Reformed Dutch Church in Sleepy Hollow, near Tarrytown, N. Y., is an inscription "In Memory of Capt. John Buckhaut, who departed this life April 10, 1765, aged 103 years, and left behind him, when he died, 240 children and grandchildren. Also Mary, the wife of John Buckhaut, who died August, 1755, aged 73 years." The church itself was erected in 1699, and is one of the oldest churches in the country.

PRINTING on glass has been successfully accomplished by a gentleman in New York city. By a new process he is enabled to print letters and figures, of various designs, on glass of multi-colors, with a facility almost equal to ordinary printing on common paper. Labels can be printed by this process directly on bottles of any size and form. These have the appearance of having been placed there by the hand, and are indellible. Lettering on glass, by the new process, can be done at less than one-third of the present cost.

FOR THE BOER.—Wm. H. Rows, convicted of the murder of McKeever, expiated his crime upon the gallows at Jacinto, Mississippi, on the 19th inst., in the presence of about three thousand persons. He attributed his ignominious death, in a great degree, to the fact that in early life he was a bad boy. He said he was an instance of what bad boys come to.

MARRIAGE OF KINDRED.—A bill has passed the House of Representatives of Georgia, by a vote of fifty six to fifty-two, prohibiting the intermarriage of first cousins, under a severe penalty, and cutting off the inheritance of issue. The preamble to the bill asserts that many deformations of mind and body are of congenital origin, from the practice of near kindred intermarrying with each other.

TOBACCO AND RUM IN THE NEXT WORLD.—How THE SPIRITS GET THEIR LIQUOR.—In a lecture at Dodworth's Hall, N. Y., on Sunday evening, Judge Edmonds said of spirits in the next world:

"I once had a spirit come to me who had been addicted to the use of tobacco, and the first want he experienced on entering into a spiritual existence was a desire for that. I had an interview with a spirit who was a drunkard while living here, and he asked me for drink. I asked, 'What good would ardent spirits do you now?' and he said, 'I can drink it through you.'"

SIGNS OF A MILD WINTER.—The Western papers say that the muskrats have built their winter houses "high up and thin," as if contemplating a mild time coming.

DOUBLE SUICIDE OF FREE LOVERS.—The Huntsville Item relates a curious case of double suicide of a Frenchman and his wife, living at White Rock Shoals, on the Trinity river. It appears that about a year since, they eloped from Louisiana, and were living in a state of adultery, when fearing that they would be indicted, they went to Sumpter and were married. Subsequently a true bill was found against them by the Grand Jury of Trinity county, which so preyed upon their spirits, that in a fit of desperation, they seized a couple of shot guns, and committed the fearful deed.

A bull dog attacked one of General Tom Thumb's ponies lately, as he was riding to the Teutonic Hall, at Liverpool. The ponies ran at great speed, and it was with difficulty that the General was rescued. His valet was knocked down and injured, one of the ponies was seriously wounded, and the carriage broken.

A SINGULAR SUIT.—A man named Mace has sued a citizen of Dayton, Ohio, for having, some years ago, caused his conviction and imprisonment in the Penitentiary for burglary. He lays his damages at $50,000.

IMMENSE SHEEP MOVEMENT.—The Santa Fe (N. M.) Gazette, states that 105,000 sheep are about to be taken from Bernaillo and Valentia counties, in that Territory, overland to California. There is also a drove of 10,000 from Ohio, now at Santa Fe, bound for the same destination.

THE Bury (England) Post says that Mr. Kidsdale, who died recently with only threepence in his pocket, and whose funeral expenses were defrayed by a subscription, was wealthy a few years ago and owned 100 horses, but was ruined by his losses on the "Turf."

WILD ANIMALS IN VIRGINIA.—A letter from Page county, Va., in the Alexandria Sentinel, states that wolves are very plentiful in that county, and very destructive to sheep—one gentleman having lost a flock of forty last week by these ravenous animals. A panther measuring 6 feet from tip to tip was killed last week while springing from the hog pen of W. Modisett with a shoat in his mouth.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—This document, it is stated, is to be sent to California by express, via the overland mail route. The contractors have already sent a messenger to Washington to obtain advance copies, and purpose "putting it through" in the shortest time ever yet made to the Pacific from the Atlantic States.

INCREASED COTTON RECEIPTS IN NORTH CAROLINA.—The Raleigh (N. C.) Standard says:—"The excess in receipts of cotton over last year, or, indeed, over any other year, is remarkable. Total, to latest dates, 815 827 bales, against 342,760 last year; increase 473,067 bales!"

EARLY WINTER IN MAINE.—Previous to the 16th ult., the mill pond, at Jonesboro', Maine, was so well frozen that the boys skated on the ice, for a distance of two or three miles above the mill. Such an event does not occur oftener than once in twenty years so early in the season.

HON. Henry Bedinger, ex-minister to Denmark, died very suddenly, at his residence in Shepherdstown, Va., on the 26th ult.

EFFECT OF COLD.—Dr. Rae says the Hudson's Bay Company allow eight pounds of buffalo meat as the daily ration of their employees.

DROWNED IN SIGHT OF HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.—On Friday night of last week, as Michael Kiegon was steering a boat in the Delaware and Hudson Canal, near Sparrowbush, Orange county, N. Y., the tiller broke, and, before he could recover himself, he was pitched out of the boat, and, being unable to swim, was drowned. His wife and two children were in the boat, and with horror witnessed the dying struggles of the unfortunate man, being unable to render him any assistance.

A SMALL box has lately been got up by Henry Burt, of Newark, N. J., with a kind of opera glass attachment, and mirror inside, in which six eggs are placed at a time, and the light being excluded, a glance tells the spectator whether the eggs are sound or otherwise. It is called an ovnoscope.

IN Vermont, recently, a young man flogged his brother severely for preventing his father from hanging himself. On being remonstrated with for whipping his brother for saving his father's life, he replied: "I wanted him to know that it was his business *to let father have his own way.*"

THE Independance Belge says that M. de Rothschild has sent, through the representative of his house in the Pontifical States, the sum of 10,000 francs to M. Mortara, to enable him to continue his efforts for the restitution of his child, without sacrificing the interests of his family.

A LETTER, dated Rome, 13th ult., received in Paris, states that the boy Mortara has declared himself to be a Catholic in heart, and that he intends to enter the ecclesiastical state. On the other hand, his mother says that he told her that he was determined "to die a Jew," and that he "repeated the creed of the Jews daily."

ON Friday last a messenger of one of the Boston banks lost a package containing $28,000. The money was found by a boy who gave it to his father, and it thus reached the hands of the owners after the mysterious loss had created a good deal of wonder.

A REVIVAL of the Norman curfew has been in operation all over Paris, and, strange to add, there has been no noise made about it, save the sound of the drum by which it has been proclaimed in the more refractory streets of the Pays Latin, and other unruly localities. At the hour of 11 P. M., all cafes, billiard-rooms, and similar establishments, are punctually closed, having been previously evacuated by their habitual or casual frequenters.

MADAME MOET, the celebrated proprietor of the champagne vineyards, whose daughter was married the other day, has just met with her death in a most extraordinary manner. She was gathering flowers in her garden, when she felt herself bitten by a fly. She thought nothing of the slight puncture, but, in the evening her face began to swell, and in a few days afterwards she died in intense agony. It is supposed that the fly must have fed upon putrid flesh.

THE recent decisions in the Limantour and Almedan land cases in California, involve immense amounts of property, in the former case the value being $40,000,000, while in the latter the value is shown by the fact that in six years $8,000,000 of quicksilver has been taken from the mines. The parties holding these lands are said to be without a title, except what is based on forgeries. The cases will, of course, be carried up to the United States Supreme Court.

THE special election in Berks county, Penna., for a member of Congress, in place of J. Glancy Jones, resigned, has resulted in the success of General William H. Keim, the Opposition candidate, by four hundred and sixty-nine majority. In the previous contest, Schwartz, anti-Lecompton Democrat, was elected by nineteen majority.

PROFESSOR MORSE has received, in Paris, the first instalment (100,000 francs) of the testimonial of the ten European Powers.

AT a recent conference, in London, of three hundred members of the Society of Friends, it was agreed to sanction marriage between individuals of that community and others, although not in membership, by allowing them to take place within its religious meetings, and that all restrictions in regard to what is called plainness of speech, behaviour, and apparel, may also be discontinued!

THE author of the new novel, entitled "The New Priest in Conception Bay," is said to be the Rev. Robert T. S. Lowell, rector of Christ Church, in Newark, and an elder brother of James Russell Lowell the poet.

A KENTUCKIAN has been marrying a Kickapoo squaw: Married—At Shawnee, Kansas Territory, on the 10th ult., by Rev. Mr. Spencer, Jonathan Gore, Esq., (formerly of Nelson Co., Ky.) to Miss Sallie, daughter of Charles Blue Jacket, U. S. Interpreter.

A RESOLUTION that no member shall be entitled to his *per diem* who shall be absent from his seat during the session, without providential cause, or leave of the Senate, was adopted in the Georgia Legislature, so as to apply solely to the mover.

CHARLES WEED, of Milledgeville, Illinois, has invented a method for raising water at railway stations by the weight of the locomotive acting on a yielding portion of the track. A deflection of half an inch in the rails operates mechanism which pumps up the required quantity for supplying the engine.

AN OLD METHODIST DIVINE DEAD.—The death of the Rev. John Hickling, the oldest Methodist preacher in the world, and the last survivor of the "helpers" of John Wesley, is reported. Mr. Hickling was in the 71st year of his ministry, and was nearly 93 years old. A fortnight ago he lectured in Birmingham on "Early Methodism;" and at the time of his death, was announced to conduct other services. He died at Audley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

JULIA SMITH, a professional thief, was arrested in Cincinnati, Ohio, a day or two since, and under her hoops were found carefully stowed three towels, two table cloths, one looking-glass, three tumblers, one pair of pants, and a quart bottle of Madeira.

AT a Democratic Territorial Convention in Kansas, a series of resolutions, petitioning Congress for liberal land grants for public improvements, denouncing the Republican party, and in favor of the exclusion of free negroes from the future State of Kansas, declaring the slave question a dead issue, advocating the opening of the Indian reserves to settlers, and a modification of the pre-emption laws, was finally adopted, with a preamble, determining upon an immediate organization of the Democracy. The Convention leaned towards Douglas.

GENEROUS AND JUDICIOUS.—Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, of Hartford, Conn., furnished fifty poor families, in Boston, with turkeys or fowls and pumpkin pies, of the best quality, too, for a Thanksgiving dinner.

AN English gentleman, Lieutenant Twyford, has taken a singular step in the way of promoting the study of natural history, more particularly in the craniological department as instanced in his munificent contribution to the Museum of Rouen. That capital of Normandy has just received, in a barrel of rackee (strong XX.) five heads of Sepoys, classified according to caste.

AT least one thousand tenements are marked "To Let" in Lowell, Mass. Its population, in two years, has fallen from thirty-eight thousand to thirty-three thousand. Most of them have gone to Minnesota.

THE Georgia Legislature, now in session, has set apart a new county, from Lowndes and Thomas, and given it the name of Brooks, in honor of Preston S. Brooks, of South Carolina. The county site is to be called Quitman.

THE ladies Lucy and Harriet Bridgeman were lately in jeopardy of their lives at Weston, England. Lady Harriet's dress accidentally caught fire, and the flames were communicated to the clothing of the sister. Both were seriously burned. Consequences of wearing crinoline.

ROBERT THE DEVIL was performed lately at Paris, for the four hundreth time. The "devil" without Robert is being performed there constantly.

THE SYSTEM OF TORTURE IN AUBURN PRISON.—AUBURN, N. Y., Dec. 3.—A colored convict died yesterday, while in the shower bath, where he had been placed for punishment. The affair caused great excitement among the prisoners, and a general rebellion was feared, but the night passed off without disturbance.

MME. GEO. SAND is in rather a singular embarrassment; she has the second, third and fourth acts of a comedy written, but says she cannot write the first and fifth.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Hon. James Chesnut, President of the State Senate, has been elected U. S. Senator from South Carolina—Chesnut, 92; Adams, 54. It is represented as a triumph of the Anti-Slave Trade and Senator Hammond party.

A MAN, in Detroit, recently had the top of his head cut off by a knife in a wheel. The knife struck him on the back of the head, low down in the neck, completely severing the upper and back portion of the skull, on a line close to the top of the ears, and cutting through and removing a considerable portion of the brain. The most singular circumstance was that the man, in this horribly wounded condition, walked into an adjoining apartment, where other workmen were, and afterwards walked to a carriage, in which he rode to his home, surviving the accident nearly half a day. We doubt if another case of such extreme tenacity of life can be found in the records of accidents; but the actual occurrence of the above circumstances is vouched for by competent authorities, and is beyond a doubt.

THE SLAVER ECHO IN THE U. S. CIRCUIT COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA—NO BILLS OF INDICTMENT FOUND.—Columbia, S. C., Nov. 30.—The Grand Jury of the U. S. Circuit Court came in this morning, but found no bills of indictment in the three cases against the crew of the slaver Echo. The counsel for the prisoners will probably move for their discharge from custody on Monday next, when the question as to the constitutionality of the act of Congress will come up for argument. The U. S. Attorney for this district will endeavor to hold the prisoners.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 2.—The counsel for the prisoners in the slaver Echo case, to day, petitioned for a writ of habeas corpus, to bring the prisoners before court, to show reason why they should not be detained longer in custody. The court granted the writ, which is made returnable on Saturday at ten o'clock. This will bring up the evidence and argument in the case. The Grand Jury has been further discharged until Monday. The impression appears to be that the prisoners will be held, and the case taken to another district.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 30th.—In the Slaver Echo case, the bills have been thrown out by the Grand Jury. There was evident excitement in Court when the result was announced.

LATER FROM MEXICO.—NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 4.—The steamship General Rusk has arrived from Brazos, with dates to the 30th ult. The intelligence from Mexico by this arrival is favorable to the Liberal cause. Zuloago is reported as about to decamp.

The Liberals favor a Treaty with the United States for the extradition of slaves and criminals.

VIRGINIA DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.—PETERSBURG, Dec. 4th.—Hon. John Letcher has received the nomination for Governor by a vote of 12,500 majority over all.

POSTPONED.—The Allibone and Newhall trial was postponed, on Monday, in consequence of the sickness of a juror, to the 13th.

HAVE YOU A COLD? THEN USE JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT.

BATFIELD, C. W., Sept. 9th, 1858.

DR. D. JAYNE—Dear Sir:

Having lately been attacked with a violent inflammation of the Lungs, I had recourse to your Expectorant, in conjunction with the usual remedies of blistering, &c., and found it effectual to a surprising degree in relieving my Lungs from a load of corrupt matter. I raised as much as a quart in two days. I have been improving in health ever since. I also experienced great relief from the use of your Liniment when my throat was so much inflamed, that I could swallow no food. In two days after applying it I could swallow quite freely.

ANDREW GOWANLOCK.

These medicines are prepared only by Dr. D. Jayne & Son, Philadelphia, and are for sale by their agents throughout the country. dec11-2t

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JOHN O. MEAD & SONS, corner of Ninth and Chestnut Streets, have just completed a great improvement in Tea and Coffee Sets, whereby they can be placed on stoves and fires to boil tea and coffee. They are of their own *manufacture*, richly chased, and warranted of the finest quality. J. O. M. & Sons have also on hand *most superior* Waiters, Castors, Knives, Forks, Spoons, Meat and Vegetable Dishes, Goblets, Communion Sets, &c., and every article in Silver Plated Ware *warranted* of the best quality.

CONSTIPATION OF THE BOWELS.

How many of our citizens are suffering from this disease, and expecting to be cured by the use of violent purgatives, which debilitate the system, and cause a return of the disease with increased asperity? Is it not better to have a remedy that will cure, by giving strength and vigor to the bowels, enabling them to perform their functions in a natural manner? Such a remedy is "HOOFLAND'S GERMAN BITTERS." It will not purge you, but, by its great invigorating and tonic properties, will give your system a tone that will enable it to perform all its functions in a vigorous and natural manner. For sale by all druggists and dealers in medicines at 75 cents per bottle.

NO MEDICAL preparation has ever been introduced to the public, which has realized such marked success as PERRY DAVIS'S VEGETABLE PAIN KILLER. Where the Pain Killer has been offered for sale during a long term of years, and where its virtues are known and appreciated, it will be sure to retain its enviable popularity; and that its sale will continue to increase as it finds its way to new markets, no intelligent person can doubt.

DR. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY is truly a balsam. It contains the balsamic principle of the Wild Cherry, the balsamic properties of tar and of pine. Its ingredients are all balsamic. Coughs, colds, and consumption disappear under its balsamic influence.

☞ Buy none unless it has the *written* signature of "*I. Butts*" on the wrapper.

WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVER AND PLATED WARE.—First class goods constantly on hand. The subscriber paying cash for every article is enabled to sell goods at very low prices. THOS. W. BAILY, 622 Market Street, Philada. sr11-18t

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AN AMERICAN LADY AND THE EMPRESS.—A well known leader of fashion from the United States, who was sharing the splendid hospitalities of Compiegne, appeared one evening recently at a ball in a dress precisely identical with that worn by her imperial majesty in person! Great was the astonishment and dismay of the Court ladies, for it is known that the Empress Eugenie, whose soul appears to be about equally divided between her mantua-maker and her confessor, insists upon the strictest secrecy being observed as to what is destined to adorn her imperial limbs. Evidently, however, the secrets of the confessional had been here this time, betrayed, and the audacious "citizenness" vied in fashion and novelty with the Empress. Nay, worse still, when her majesty at last stepped up to her rival and good naturedly asked, "which dress was to be considered the original," the American lady was able to reply that that was her "second" appearance in that character!

A UNIQUE TEAM.—One of the lions of Lowell at present, is a dashing team drawn by a splendid pair of ponies about the size of Newfoundland dogs, but who are fast trotters, and distance many of their larger brethren on the road.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

BREADSTUFFS—The inert condition of the Flour market, which we have chronicled for weeks past still continues, and with unfavorable advices from Europe, with a probability that very limited supplies will be wanted there during the ensuing season, there is but little probability of any change from the present state of affairs for some weeks to come. The receipts are quite moderate, yet being somewhat in excess of the demand the stock has slowly accumulated. There has been very little export demand, and only 3000 bbls have been disposed of at $5@5,25 ₱ bbl for superfine; $5,50@5,87½ for extra, and $6@6,75 for extra family and fancy, including 200 bbls medium superfine at $5,37½; 200 bbls Ohio at $5,75; some half bbls at $5,37½ ₱ pair, and 600 bbls extra on private terms. The sales to the retailers and bakers are moderate within the range of these figures. Rye Flour has not been inquired after. Holders ask $4 ₱ bbl. Corn Meal is extremely dull and has declined 12½c ₱ bbl. Sales of 1500 bbls Penna at $3,25 ₱ bbl, and 100 bbls uninspected do at $3.

GRAIN—The receipts of Wheat have fallen off from all quarters since Friday last, but they have been fully up to the demand. Sales of 26,000 bushels, in lots, ranging from $1,20 to $1,28 ₱ bushel for common and prime red, and $1,30@$1,42 for white, including some choice Southern at the latter rate, and mixed at $1,20. Rye is in good demand for distilling, and is taken on arrival at 79@80c. Old Corn has been scarce, and in active request at the late decline. Of new the supply has been rather in excess of the demand, and prices have declined. Sales of 15@15,000 bushels, at 85@90c for old yellow, afloat; 70@78c for new yellow, according to dryness; 80@86c for new and old mixed, and 80c for a lot of old white. Oats are in good request. 10,000 bushels Delaware, Jersey and Pennsylvania sold at 45@46c.; 3000 bushels prime two-rowed New York Barley sold at 90c, and 1000 bushels Barley Malt at $1 ₱ bushel.

PROVISIONS—The market has been quiet, since our last notice, owing, in a measure, to the absence of adequate supplies. The stock of Mess Pork is very much reduced. Sales of 550 bbls at $17,75@18 cash and short time, and Prime at $15,50. City packed Mess Beef is quiet at the decline noted last week, and sells only in a small way at $15@15,50 ₱ barrel. Killed Hogs command 6@6½c ₱ lb, cash, as in condition. Bacon—The demand has been limited both for the city trade and the South, but the stock is light, and holders have put up their prices for Sides and Shoulders. Sales of Hams, in lots, at 10@12c for plain and fancy canvassed; Sides at 9½c—now held at 10c, and Shoulders at 7½c—now held at 8c cash. In Green Salted Meats nothing doing. Lard—The demand continues quite limited, but there is very little here. Sales of 200 tierces and barrels at 10½@11c, and kegs at 11½c, cash. A sale of 500 kegs, for export, at 12c. Country Lard sells at 10@10½c. Butter is steady; 15,000 lbs solid packed sold at 10½@12c, and Roll, which is in good demand, at 20@24c: Goshen sells at 24@24½c.

COTTON—There has been a good demand, and prices are now full ½ ₱ cent higher than at the close of last week. The receipts and stocks are light. Sales of 1230 bales, chiefly Uplands, at 12½ cents for Middling, up to 12¾ cents ₱ lb, cash, for middling fair—closing firm at the latter figure, including some at 13½c on time, and samples at 11½c.

BARK—Supplies of Quercitron Bark comes in slowly, and holders are firm, but the demand has fallen off. Small sales of No 1 at $30 ₱ ton. Tanners' Bark is steady at our last quotations.

BEESWAX—There has been more inquiry, and 4000 pounds good yellow sold at 32@33c ₱ lb, cash.

COAL—The demand this week has been quite good both for the supply of the Eastern markets and the home consumers, but the scarcity of coal vessels, and the advanced rates of freight to Boston, have had a tendency to somewhat restrict shipments to that quarter. The receipts, both by railroad and canal, are liberal, but the supplies by the latter will soon cease. No sales of Bituminous Coal.

COFFEE—There have been no further arrivals of any description, and the stock of Rio in first hands is about exhausted. Sales of 500 bags, at 10½@11¾c, 350 bags Laguayra at 11¾c, and 300 bags Triage at 9½@9¾c, all on time.

FEATHERS are dull. The last sale of Western was at 50c per lb, short time.

FURS—Beaver, Santa Fe, ₱ lb, $2@$2,50; Rocky Mountain, do. $3@$3,50; Muskrat, do, 18@25c; Nutria, do, 35@50c; Raccoon, do, 38@50 cents.

FRUIT—Domestic Fruit of most descriptions is dull. Green Apples range from $1,75 up to $4,50 ₱ barrel. Dried Apples sell at 7@7½ cents, and Peaches at 10@12c for unpared quarters and halves, and 15@17c for pared. The latter of prime quality are rather scarce. Cranberries command $8@$12 per barrel, as in quality.

HEMP is very quiet. A sale of Western dew rotted at $120 ₱ ton, on time.

HIDES—There is no stock left in first hands, and no transactions have been reported.

HOPS have been in rather better request. Old crop is held at 7@10c, and new at 12@16c ₱ lb, as in quality.

IRON—The market continues quite firm, and there is a fair inquiry for Pig Metal. Sales of 500 tons No 1 at $23 ₱ ton, 6 mos. A lot of No 3 Forge sold at $19, cash. A sale of 200 tons Scotch Pig at $25, 6 mos, which is an advance. A lot of Charcoal Blooms brought $63, 6 mos. No change in Bar or Boiler Iron.

LEAD is steady. A sale of 970 Pigs Virginia was made at 5½c, on time, equal to cash.

LUMBER—There is but little doing in any description. A cargo of Georgia Flooring Boards sold at $19, and one of Delaware Yellow Pine Sap at $15 per M feet.

MOLASSES—There has been but little inquiry, and no change to notice in prices. Small sales of Cuba Muscovado at 25@27c, Boston Syrup at 38@40c, and 100 barrels New Orleans at 42c, on time.

SEEDS—There has been a good demand for Clover seed at the late decline; sales of 4000 bus at $5,50 ₱ 64 lbs, for fair and good quality, including some prime lots at $5,62½, inferior at $5@5,37½; 1200 bags from second hands at 9½c ₱ lb, and 100 tons on terms kept private. Timothy is worth $2, and 1000 bus Flaxseed sold at $1,60@1,62 ₱ bus.

SPIRITS—Foreign Brandy and Gin are dull at previous rates, but in Domestic Spirits there is a better feeling. A sale of Peach Brandy was made at $2. N E Rum is selling in lots at 37@38 cts, which is an improvement. Whiskey is in good request, and the sales have been liberal, amounting to 1600 bbls at 25½@26c for Ohio; 24½@25c for Easton; 24½c for hhds, and 23½c for drudge.

SUGAR—The market has been very quiet, but prices are firm; 100 hhds Cuba sold at 6½@7c ₱ lb, on time.

WOOL meets a good inquiry, particularly the medium grades, for which prices have advanced about 1c ₱ lb. Of the low grades the stock is about exhausted, and of the finer description it is quite moderate for the season. Sales of 180,000 lbs from 38 to 53c for common and fine, and 25c ₱ lb for unwashed.

MARRIAGES.

☞ Marriage notices must always be accompanied by a responsible name.

At Berlin Falls House, Berlin, N. H., Nov. 24th, by M. C. Forist, Esq., M. JOHN C. WILSON, to Miss HANNAH GILSON, both of Berlin.

On the 22d of Aug. by the Rev. J. R. Anderson, Mr. DAVID E. PRETTYMAN, to Miss HARRIET MCCLURE, both of this city.

On the 9th of Sept. by the Rev. Dr. Blackwood, Mr. JAMES HINCHLIFF, to Miss MARY BENNETT, both of this city.

On the 24th ultimo, by the Rev. J. A. McKean, Mr. JACOB SHEPHAR

comes, that the commercial nations of Europe, with whose interests our own are so materially involved, will expose themselves to similar calamities But this subject was treated so much at large in my last annual message that I shall not pursue it further. Still, I respectfully renew the recommendation, in favor of the passage of a uniform bankrupt law, applicable to banking institutions. This is all the power over the subject which, I believe, the federal government possesses Such a law would mitigate, though it might not prevent the evil. The instinct of self-preservation might produce a wholesome restraint upon their banking business, if they knew in advance that a suspension of specie payments would inevitably produce their civil death

But the effects of the revulsion are now slowly but surely passing away The energy and enterprise of our citizens, with our unbounded resources, will, within the period of another year, restore a state of wholesome industry and trade Capital has again accumulated in our large cities. The rate of interest is there very low Confidence is gradually reviving, and so soon as it is discovered that this capital can be profitably employed in commercial and manufacturing enterprises, and in the construction of railroads and other works of public and private improvement, prosperity will again smile throughout the land. It is vain, however, to disguise the fact from ourselves, that a speculative inflation of our currency, without a corresponding inflation in other countries whose manufactures come into competition with our own, must ever produce disastrous results to our domestic manufactures No tariff short of absolute prohibition, can prevent these evil consequences

In connexion with this subject, it is proper to refer to our financial condition The same causes which have produced pecuniary distress throughout the country, have so reduced the amount of imports from foreign countries, that the revenue has proved inadequate to meet the necessary expenses of the government To supply the deficiency, Congress, by the act of the 23d of December, 1857, authorized the issue of $20 000,000 of treasury notes; and this proving inadequate, they authorized, by the act of June 14th, 1858, a loan of $20 000,000, "to be applied to the payment of appropriations made by law"

No statesman would advise, that we should go on increasing the national debt to meet the ordinary expenses of the government. This would be a most ruinous policy In case of war, our credit must be our chief resource, at least for the first year, and this would be greatly impaired by having contracted a large debt in time of peace It is our true policy, to increase our revenue so as to equal our expenditures It would be ruinous to continue to borrow. Besides, it may be proper to observe, that the incidental protection, thus afforded by a revenue tariff, would at the present moment, to some extent, increase the confidence of the manufacturing interests, and give a fresh impulse to our reviving business. To this, surely, no person will object.

In regard to the mode of assessing and collecting duties under a strictly revenue tariff, I have long entertained and often expressed the opinion, that sound policy requires this should be done by specific duties, in cases to which these can be properly applied They are well adapted to commodities which are usually sold by weight or measure, and which, from their nature, are of equal or of nearly equal value Such, for example, are the articles of iron of different classes, raw sugar, and foreign wines and spirits

In my deliberate judgment, specific duties are the best, if not the only means of securing the revenue against false and fraudulent invoices, and such has been the practice adopted for this purpose by other commercial nations Besides, specific duties would afford to the American manufacturer the incidental advantages to which he is fairly entitled under a revenue tariff. The present system is a sliding scale to his disadvantage. Under it, when prices are high and business prosperous, the duties rise in amount when he least requires their aid On the contrary, when prices fall, and he is struggling against adversity, the duties are diminished in the same proportion, greatly to his injury

Neither would there be danger that a higher rate of duty than that intended by Congress, could be levied in the form of specific duties It would be easy to ascertain the average value of any imported article for a series of years; and instead of subjecting it to an *ad valorem* duty at a certain rate per centum, to substitute in its place an equivalent specific duty

By such an arrangement the consumer would not be injured. It is true, he might have to pay a little more duty on a given article in one year; but if so, he would pay a little less in another, and in a series of years these would counterbalance each other, and amount to the same thing, so far as his interest is concerned This inconvenience would be trifling, when contrasted with the additional security thus afforded against frauds upon the revenue, in which every consumer is directly interested

I have thrown out these suggestions as the fruit of my own observation, to which Congress, in their better judgment, will give such weight as they may justly deserve.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will explain in detail the operations of that department of the government. The receipts into the treasury from all sources during the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1858, including the treasury notes authorized by the act of December 23d, 1857, were seventy million two hundred and seventy-three thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine dollars and fifty-nine cents, ($70,273,869 59,) which amount, with the balance of seventeen million seven hundred and ten thousand one hundred and fourteen dollars and twenty-seven cents, ($17 710,114 27) remaining in the treasury at the commencement of the year, made an aggregate for the service of the year of eighty seven million nine hundred and eighty three thousand nine hundred and eighty-three dollars and eighty-six cents, ($87 983,983 86,)

The public expenditures during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1858, amounted to eighty-one million five hundred and eighty-five thousand six hundred and sixty-seven dollars and seventy-six cents, ($81,585 667 76,) of which nine million six hundred and eighty four thousand five hundred and thirty-seven dollars and ninety-nine cents, ($9,684,537 99) were applied to the payment of the public debt, and the redemption of treasury notes with the interest thereon, leaving in the treasury on July 1, 1858, being the commencement of the present fiscal year, six million three hundred and ninety-eight thousand three hundred and sixteen dollars and ten cents. [$6 398,316 10]

The receipts into the treasury, during the first quarter of the present fiscal year, commencing the 1st July, 1858, including one-half of the loan of twenty millions of dollars, with the premium upon it, authorised by the act of 14th June, 1858, were twenty-five million two hundred and thirty thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine dollars and forty-six cents, $25,230 879 46) and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters to the 30th June, 1859, from ordinary sources, are thirty-eight million five hundred thousand dollars, ($38,500 000) making, with the balance before stated, an aggregate of seventy million one hundred and twenty-nine thousand one hundred and ninety-five dollars and fifty-six cents, (70,129,195 56)

The expenditures, during the first quarter of the present fiscal year, were twenty-one million seven hundred and eight thousand one hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty one cents, ($21 708 198 51:) of which one million and ten thousand one hundred and forty-two dollars and thirty-seven cents ($1,010,142 37) were applied to the payment of the public debt and the redemption of treasury notes and the interest thereon The estimated expenditures, during the remaining three quarters to 30th June, 1859, are fifty-two million three hundred and fifty-seven thousand six hundred and ninety-eight dollars and forty eight cents, ($52,357 698 48.) making an aggregate of seventy-four million sixty five thousand eight hundred and ninety-six dollars and ninety-nine cents, ($74 065,-896 99) being an excess of expenditure beyond the estimated receipts into the treasury from ordinary sources, during the fiscal year to the 30th June, 1859 of three million nine hundred and thirty-six thousand seven hundred and one dollars and forty-three cents, ($3 936,701 43) Extraordinary means are placed by law within the command of the Secretary of the Treasury, by the reissue of treasury notes redeemed, and by negotiating the balance of the loan authorised by the act of 14th June, 1858, to the extent of eleven millions of dollars, which, if realised during the present fiscal year, will leave a balance in the treasury, on the first day of July, 1859, of seven million sixty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-seven cents, ($7,063 298 57)

The estimated receipts during the next fiscal year ending 30th June, 1860, are sixty-two millions of dollars, ($62,000 000) which, with the above estimated balance of seven million sixty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-seven cents, ($7,063 298 57,) make an aggregate for the service of the next fiscal year, of sixty-nine million sixty-three thousand two hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-seven cents, ($69 063 298 57.) The estimated expenditures during the next fiscal year ending 30th June, 1860, are seventy-three million one hundred and thirty-nine thousand one hundred and forty-seven dollars and forty-six cents, ($73,139,147 46,) which leave a deficit of estimated means, compared with the estimated expenditures for that year, commencing on the 1st of July, 1859, of four million and seventy-five thousand eight hundred and forty eight dollars and eighty nine cents, ($4,075 848 89)

In addition to this sum, the Postmaster General will require from the treasury, for the service of the Post Office Department, three million eight hundred and thirty eight thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight dollars, ($3,838,728) as explained in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, which will increase the estimated deficit on the 30th June, 1860, to seven million nine hundred and fourteen thousand five hundred and seventy-six dollars and eighty-nine cents, (7,914 576 89.) To provide for the payment of this estimated deficiency, which will be increased by such appropriations as may be made by Congress, not estimated for in the report of the Treasury Department, as well as to provide for the gradual redemption, from year to year, of the outstanding treasury notes, the Secretary of the Treasury recommends such a revision of the present tariff as will raise the required amount. After what I have already said, I need scarcely add that I concur in the opinion expressed in his report—that the public debt should not be increased by an additional loan, and would therefore strongly urge upon Congress the duty of making, at their present session, the necessary provision for meeting these liabilities

The public debt on the 1st July, 1858, the commencement of the present fiscal year, was $25,155,977 66

During the first quarter of the present year, the sum of $10 000 000 has been negotiated of the loan authorised by the act of 14th June, 1858—making the present outstanding public debt, exclusive of treasury notes, $35 155 977 66 There was on the 1st July, 1858, of treasury notes issued by authority of the act of December 23, 1857, unredeemed, the sum of $19,754 800—making the amount of actual indebtedness, at that date, $54 910 777 66 To this will be added $10 000 000 during the present fiscal year—this being the remaining half of the loan of $20,000 000 not yet negotiated.

The rapid increase of the public debt, and the necessity which exists for a modification of the tariff, to meet even the ordinary expenses of the government, ought to admonish us all, in our respective spheres of duty, to the practice of rigid economy. The objects of expenditure should be limited in number, as far as this may be practicable, and the appropriations necessary to carry them into effect, ought to be disbursed under the strictest accountability Enlightened economy does not consist in the refusal to appropriate money for constitutional purposes, essential to the defence, progress and prosperity of the republic, but in taking care that none of this money shall be wasted by mismanagement, or its application to the objects designated by law

Comparisons between the annual expenditure at the present time, and what it was ten or twenty years ago, are altogether fallacious. The rapid increase of our country in extent and population, renders a corresponding increase of expenditure, to some extent, unavoidable. This is constantly creating new objects of expenditure, and augmenting the amount required for the old The true questions, then, are, have these objects been unnecessarily multiplied? or, has the amount expended upon any or all of them, been larger then comports with due economy? In accordance with these principles, the heads of the different executive departments of the government have been instructed to reduce their estimates for the next fiscal year to the lowest standard consistent with the efficiency of the service, and this duty they have performed in a spirit of just economy.

The estimates of the Treasury, War, Navy and Interior Departments, have each been in some degree reduced; and unless a sudden and unforeseen emergency should arise, it is not anticipated that a deficiency will exist in either within the present or the next fiscal year The Post-office Department is placed in a peculiar position, different from the other departments, and to this I shall hereafter refer

I invite Congress to institute a rigid scrutiny to ascertain whether the expenses in all the departments cannot be still further reduced; and I promise them all the aid in my power in pursuing the investigation.

I transmit herewith the reports made to me by the Secretaries of War, of the Navy, of the Interior, and of the Postmaster General They each contain valuable information and important recommendations, to which I invite the attention of Congress.

In my last annual message, I took occasion to recommend the immediate construction of ten small steamers, of light draught, for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the navy Congress responded to the recommendation, by authorising the construction of eight of them The progress which has been made in executing this authority, is stated in the report of the Secretary of the Navy. I concur with him in the opinion, that a greater number of this class of vessels is necessary, for the purpose of protecting in a more efficient manner the persons and property of American citizens on the high seas, and in foreign countries, as well as in guarding more effectually our own coasts I accordingly recommend the passage of an act for this purpose.

The suggestions contained in the report of the Secretary of the Interior, especially those in regard to the disposition of the public domain, the pension and bounty land system, the policy towards the Indians, and the amendment of our patent laws, are worthy of the serious consideration of Congress

The Post Office Department occupies a position very different from that of the other departments. For many years it was the policy of the government to render this a self-sustaining department; and if this cannot now be accomplished, in the present condition of the country, we ought to make as near an approach to it as may be practicable.

The Postmaster General is placed in a most embarrassing position by the existing laws He is obliged to carry these into effect He has no other alternative. He finds, however, that this cannot be done without heavy demands on the treasury over and above what he receives for postage; and these have been progressively increasing from year to year until they amounted for the last fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1858, to more than four millions and a half of dollars: whilst it is estimated that for the present fiscal year they will amount to $8,290,100 The sums are exclusive of the annual appropriation of $700,000 for "compensation for the mail service performed for the two houses of Congress and the other departments and officers of the government in the transportation of free matter"

The cause of these large deficits is mainly attributable to the increased expense of transporting the mails. In 1852 the sum paid for this service was but a fraction above the four millions and a quarter Since that year it has annually increased until in 1858 it has reached more than eight millions and a quarter, and for the service of 1859, it is estimated that it will amount to more than ten millions of dollars

The receipts of the Post Office Department can be made to approach or to equal its expenditure, only by means of the legislation of Congress. In applying any remedy, care should be taken that the people shall not be deprived of the advantages, which they are fairly entitled to enjoy from the Post Office Department The principal remedies recommended to the consideration of Congress by the Postmaster General, are to restore the former rate of postage upon single letters to five cents; to substitute for the franking privilege the delivery to those now entitled to enjoy it, of post office stamps for their correspondence, and to direct the department, in making contracts for the transportation of the mail, to confine itself to the payment of the sum necessary for this single purpose, without requiring it to be transported in post coaches or carriages of any particular description Under the present system, the expense to the government is greatly increased, by requiring that the mail shall be carried in such vehicles as will accommodate passengers This will be done without pay from the department, over all roads where the travel will remunerate the contractors

These recommendations deserve the grave consideration of Congress.

I would again call your attention to the construction of a Pacific railroad. Time and reflection have but served to confirm me in the truth and justice of the observations which I made on this subject, in my last annual message, to which I beg most respectfully to refer

It is freely admitted that it would be inexpedient for this government to exercise the power of constructing the Pacific railroad by its own immediate agents Such a policy would increase the patronage of the executive to a dangerous extent, and introduce a system of jobbing and corruption, which no vigilance on the part of federal officials, could either prevent or detect This can only be done by the keen eye, and the active and careful supervision of individual and private interest.

The construction of the road ought, therefore, to be committed to companies incorporated by the States, or other agencies whose pecuniary interests would be directly involved Congress might then assist them in the work by grants of land or of money, or both, under such conditions and restrictions as would secure the transportation of troops and munitions of war free from any charge, and that of the United States mail at a fair and reasonable price.

The progress of events since the commencement of your last session, has shown how soon difficulties disappear before a firm and determined resolution At that time, such a road was deemed by wise and patriotic men to be a visionary project. The great distance to be overcome, and the intervening mountains and deserts in the way, were obstacles which, in the opinion of many, could not be surmounted Now, after the lapse of but a single year, these obstacles, it has been discovered, are far less formidable than they were supposed to be; and mail stages, with passengers, now pass and repass regularly, twice in each week, by a common wagon road between San Francisco and St Louis and Memphis, in less than twenty-five days. The service has been as regularly performed, as it was, in former years, between New York and this city.

Whilst disclaiming all authority to appropriate money for the construction of this road, except that derived from the war-making power of the constitution, there are important collateral considerations urging us to undertake the work as speedily as possible

The first and most momentous of these is, that such a road would be a powerful bond of union between the States east and west of the Rocky mountains This is so self-evident as to require no illustration

But again, in a commercial point of view, I consider this the great question of the day With the eastern front of our republic stretching along the Atlantic, and its western front along the Pacific, if all the parts should be united by a safe, easy, and rapid intercommunication, we must necessarily command a very large proportion of the trade both of Europe and Asia.

Our recent treaties with China and Japan will open these rich and populous empires to our commerce; and the history of the world proves that the nation which has gained possession of the trade with Eastern Asia, has always become wealthy and powerful The peculiar geographical position of California and our Pacific possessions invites American capital and enterprise into this fruitful field To reap the rich harvest, however, it is an indispensable prerequisite, that we shall first have a railroad to convey and circulate its products throughout every portion of the Union. Besides, such a railroad through our temperate latitude, which would not be impeded by the frosts and snows of winter, nor by the tropical heats of summer, would attract to itself much of the travel and the trade of all nations passing between Europe and Asia

On the 21st of August last, Lieut. J. N. Maffit, of the United States brig Dolphin, captured the slaver "Echo," (formerly the Putnam of New Orleans,) near Kay Verde, on the coast of Cuba, with more than three hundred African negroes on board. The prize, under the command of Lieut. Bradford of the United States navy, arrived at Charleston on the 27th August; when the negroes, three hundred and six in number, were delivered into the custody of the United States marshal for the district of South Carolina. They were placed in Castle Pinckney, and afterwards in Fort Sumpter, for safe-keeping, and were detained there until the 19th September, when the survivors, two hundred and seventy-one in number, were delivered on board the United States steamer Niagara, to be transported to the coast of Africa, under the charge of the agent of the United States, pursuant to the provisions of the 3d March, 1819, "in addition to the acts prohibiting the slave trade"

Under the 2d section of this act, the President is "authorized to make such regulations and arrangements as he may deem expedient for the safe-keeping, support, and removal beyond the limit of the United States, of all such negroes, mulattoes or persons of color" captured by vessels of the United States, as may be delivered to the marshal of the district into which they are brought; "and to appoint a proper person or persons residing upon the coast of Africa, as agent or agents for receiving the negroes, mulattoes or persons of color, delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of the United States armed vessels."

A doubt immediately arose as to the true construction of this act It is quite clear from its terms that the President was authorised to provide "for the safe-keeping, support, and removal" of these negroes up till the time of their delivery to the agent on the coast of Africa; but no express provision was made for their protection and support after they had reached the place of their destination. Still, an agent was to be appointed to receive them in Africa; and it could not have been supposed that Congress intended he should desert them at the moment they were received, and turn them loose on that inhospitable coast to perish for want of food, or to become again the victims of the slave trade. Had this been the intention of Congress, the employment of an agent to receive them, who is required to reside on the coast, was unnecessary, and they might have been landed by our vessels anywhere in Africa, and left exposed to the sufferings and the fate which would certainly await them

Mr. Monroe, in his special message of 17th of December, 1819, at the first session after the act was passed, announced to Congress what, in his opinion, was its true construction. He believed it to be his duty under it, to follow these unfortunates into Africa, and make provision for them there, until they should be able to provide for themselves. In communicating this interpretation of the act of Congress, he stated that some doubt had been entertained as to its true intent and meaning, and he submitted the question to them, so that they might, "should it be deemed advisable, amend the same before further proceedings are had under it"

Nothing was done by Congress to explain the act, and Mr. Monroe proceeded to carry it into execution according to his own interpretation. This, then, became the practical construction. When the Africans from on board the Echo were delivered to the marshal at Charleston, it became my duty to consider what disposition ought to be made of them under the law For many reasons, it was expedient to remove them from that locality as speedily as possible. Although the conduct of the authorities and citizens of Charleston, in giving countenance to the execution of the law, was just what might have been expected from their high character, yet a prolonged continuance of three hundred Africans in the immediate vicinity of that city, could not have failed to become a source of inconvenience and anxiety to its inhabitants. Where to send them, was the question There was no portion of the coast of Africa, to which they could be removed with any regard to humanity, except to Liberia.

Under these circumstances, an agreement was entered into with the Colonization Society on the 7th of September last, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, under which the Society engaged for the consideration of forty five thousand dollars, to receive these Africans to Liberia from the agent of the United States, and furnish them during the period of one year thereafter, with comfortable shelter, clothing, provisions, and medical attendance, causing the children to receive schooling; and all, whether children or adults, to be instructed in the arts of civilised life, suitable to their condition.

This aggregate of forty five thousand dollars was based upon an allowance of one hundred and fifty dollars for each individual, and as there has been considerable mortality among them, and may be more before they reach Africa, the society have agreed, in an equitable spirit, to make such a deduction from the amount, as under the circumstances may appear just and reasonable. This cannot be fixed until we shall ascertain the actual number which may become a charge to the society

It was also distinctly agreed, that under no circumstances shall this government be called upon for any additional expense.

The agents of the society manifested a laudable desire to conform to the wishes of the government, throughout the transaction They assured me that, after a careful calculation, they would be required to expend the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars on each individual in complying with the agreement, and they would have nothing left to remunerate them for their care, trouble, and responsibility. At all events, I could make no better arrangement, and there was no other alternative During the period when the government itself, through its own agents, undertook the task of providing for the captured negroes in Africa, the cost per head was very much greater.

There having been no outstanding appropriation applicable to this purpose. I could not advance any money on the agreement. I therefore recommend that an appropriation may be made, of the amount necessary to carry it into effect

Other captures of a similar character may, and probably will, be made by our naval forces; and I earnestly recommend, that Congress may amend the second section of the act of March 3, 1839, so as to free its construction from the ambiguity which has so long existed, and render the duty of the President plain in executing its provisions

I recommend to your favorable regard the local interests of the District of Columbia As the residence of Congress and the executive departments of the government, we cannot fail to feel a deep concern in its welfare. This is heightened by the high character and the peaceful and orderly conduct of its resident inhabitants.

I cannot conclude without performing the agreeable duty of expressing my gratification, that Congress so kindly responded to the recommendation of my last annual message, by affording me sufficient time before the close of their late session for the examination of all the bills presented to me for approval. This change in the practice of Congress, has proved to be a wholesome reform It exerted a beneficial influence on the transaction of legislative business, and elicited the general approbation of the country It enabled Congress to adjourn with that dignity and deliberation so becoming to the representatives of this great republic, without having crowded into general appropriation bills provisions foreign to their nature, and of doubtful constitutionality and expediency. Let me warmly and strongly commend this precedent, established by themselves, as a guide to their proceedings during the present session JAMES BUCHANAN

WASHINGTON CITY, December 6, 1858.

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A "HOOSIER" IN SEARCH OF JUSTICE.

About one hundred and twenty miles from New Orleans reposes, in all rural happiness, one of the pleasantest little towns in the south, which reflects itself in the mysterious waters of the Mississippi.

To the extreme right of the town, looking at it from the river, may be seen a comfortable-looking building, surrounded by China trees; just such a place as sentimental misses dream of when they have indistinct notions of "settling in the world."

This little "turban bandbox," however, is not occupied by the sire of love, nor the airs of the lute, but by a strong limb of the law, a gnarled one, too, who knuckles down to business, and digs out of the "uncertainties of his profession" decisions, and reasons, and causes, and effects, nowhere to be met with, except in the science called, par excellence, the "perfection of human reason."

Around the interior walls of this romantic-looking place may be found an extensive library, where all the "statutes," from Moses' time down to the present day, are ranged side by side; in these musty books the owner revels day and night, digesting "digests," and growing the while sallow, with indigestion.

On the evening-time of a fine summer's day, the sage lawyer might have been seen walled in with books and manuscripts, his eye full of thought, and his bald, high forehead sparkling with the rays of the setting sun, as if his genius was making itself visible to the senses; page after page he searched, musty parchments were scanned, an expression of care and anxiety indented itself on the stern features of his face, and with a sigh of despair he desisted from his labors, uttering aloud his feelings that he feared his case was a hopeless one.

Then he renewed again his mental labor with tenfold vigor, making the very silence, with which he pursued his thoughts, ominous, as if a spirit were in his presence.

The door of the lawyer's office opened, and there pressed forward the tall, gaunt figure of a man, a perfect model of physical power and endurance—a western flatboatman. The lawyer heeded not his presence, and started as if from a dream, as the harsh tones of inquiry grated upon his ear,

"Does a 'Squire live here?"

"They call me so," was the reply, as soon as he had recovered from his astonishment.

"Well, 'Squire," continued the intruder, "I have got a case for you, and I want jestess, if it costs the best load of produce that ever come from In-di-an."

The man of law asked what was the difficulty.

"It's this, 'Squire: I'm bound for Orleans, and put in here for coffee and other little fixins; a chap with a face whiskered up like a prairie dog, says, says he,

"'Stranger, I see you've got cocks on board of your boat—bring one ashore, and I'll pit one against him that'll lick his legs off in less time than you can gaff him.' Well, 'Squire, *I never take a dar*. Says I, 'stranger, I'm thar at wunce;' and in twenty minutes the cocks were on the levee, like perfect saints.

"We chucked them together, and my bird, 'Squire, now mind, 'Squire, my bird never struck a lick, not a single blow, but tuck to his heels and run, and by thunders, threw up his feed, actewelly vomited. The stakeholder gave up the money agin me, and now I want jestess; as sure as frogs my bird was physicked, or he'd stood up to his business like a wild cat."

The lawyer heard the story with patience, but flatly refused to have anything to do with the matter.

"Prehaps," said the boatman, drawing out a corpulent pocket-book, "prehaps you think I can't pay—here's the money; help yourself—give me jestess, and draw on my purse like an ox team."

To the astonishment of the flatboatman, the lawyer still refused, but unlike many of his profession, gave his would be client, without charge, some general advice about going on board of his boat, shoving off for New Orleans, and abandoning the suit altogether.

The boatman stared with profound astonishment, and asked the lawyer, "If he was a sure enough 'Squire."

Receiving an affirmative reply, he pressed every argument he could use, to have him undertake his case and get him "jestess;" but when he found that his efforts were unavailing, he quietly seated himself for the first time, put his hat aside—crossed his legs—then looked up to the ceiling with the expression of great patience, he requested the "'Squire, to read to him the Louisiana laws on cock-fighting."

The lawyer said he did not know of a single statute in the State upon the subject. The boatman started up as if he had been shot, exclaiming—

"No laws in the State on cock-fighting! No, no, 'Squire, you can't possum me; give us the law."

The refusal again followed; the astonishment of the boatman increased, and throwing himself into a comico-heroic attitude, he waved his long fingers around the sides of the room and asked,

"What all them thar books were about?"

"All about the law."

"Well then, 'Squire, am I to understand that not one of them thar books contain a single law on cock-fighting?"

"You are."

"And, 'Squire, am I to understand that thar ain't no laws in Louisiana on cock-fighting?"

"You are."

"And am I to understand that you call yourself a 'Squire, and that you don't know anything about cock-fighting?"

"You are."

The astonishment of the boatman at this reply for a moment was unbounded, and then suddenly ceased; the awe with which he looked upon "the 'Squire" also ceased, and resuming his natural, awkward and familiar carriage, he took up his hat, and walking to the door, with a broad grin of supreme contempt in his face, he observed—

"That a 'Squire that did not know the laws of cock-fighting, in his opinion, was distinctly an infernal old chuckle-headed fool!"

A CAT STORY.

A philosophical old gentleman was one day passing a new school-house, erected somewhere towards the setting-sun borders of our glorious Union, when his attention was suddenly attracted to a crowd of persons gathered round the door. He inquired of a boy whom he met what was going on.

"Well, nothin' 'cept the skule committy, and they're goin' in."

"Oh! the committee meets to day? What for?"

"Well," continued the boy, "you see Bill, that's our biggest boy, got mad the other day, at the teacher, and so he went all round, and gathered dead cats. Nothin' but cats, and cats, and cats. Oh! it was orful, them cats."

"Pahaw! what have the cats to do with the school committee?"

"Now, well, you see Bill kept a bringing cats and cats; allers a pilin' them up yonder," pointing to a huge pile as large in extent as a pyramid, and considerable aromatic, "and he piled them. Nothin' but cats, cats!"

"Never mind, my son, what Bill did; what has the committee met for?"

"Then Bill got sick a handlin' them, and everybody got sick a nosin' them, but Bill got madder, and didn't give up, but kept a pilin' up the cats, and—"

"Tell me what the committee are holding a meeting for?"

"Why, the skule committy are goin' to hold a meetin' to say whether they'll move the skule house or the cats."

The old gentleman evaporated immediately.

Finale to a Courtship.—"Flora, ah, dearest Flora—I am come—ah! Flora, I come to—oh! you can decide my fate—I am come, my Flora—ah!"

"I see you, Malcolm, perfectly. You are come; you tell me interesting intelligence, certainly. Well, what next?"

"Oh, Flora! I am come to—to—"

"To offer me your heart and hand, I suppose?"

"Yes."

"Well, do it like a man, then, and not like a monkey."

"Plague take your self-possession!" exclaimed I, suddenly starting up from my knee upon which I had fallen in an attitude that might have won the approval of Madame de Maillard Fraisez, "you make me ashamed of myself."

"Proceed, sir," said Flora.

"You like brevity, it would seem."

"Yes," replied Flora.

"Then—will you marry me?"

"Yes."

"Will you give me a kiss?"

"You may take one."

I took the proffered kiss.

"Now, this is going to work rationally," said Flora, "when a thing is to be said, why may it not be said in two seconds, instead of stuttering and stammering two hours about it? Oh! how cordially do I hate all mysteries!" exclaimed the merry maiden, clasping my hands, energetically.

"Well, then," said I, "humbug apart, what day shall we fix for our marriage?"

Learning and Appetite.—It has been well known, at least since the days of Dr. Johnson, that nature often furnishes the men of large brains with a good digestive apparatus. But the truth has seldom been more strikingly expressed than it was lately by a celebrated colored caterer, who practises his useful occupation in one of our sister cities, which is renowned for its excellent school of learning. A lady was about to make a party, and invite, among others, the faculty of the college. She therefore held a consultation with the caterer about the preparations which were necessary. She was somewhat surprised at the estimate which he presented, and ventured to remonstrate with him a little. "Them college folks is comin'?" inquired he. "Yes," she replied. "Well, then, depend on't, I'm right," he said, with much emphasis, "for, ma'am, them larned 'ligious people eat awful!"—*Providence Journal.*

Rather Cool.—A Louisville merchant lately sold a bill of goods to an Indiana customer on credit. A settlement by note at four months was requested, to which the Hoosier debtor willingly assented. "But suppose I don't pay this note when it falls due?" inquired he.—"Then," replied the merchant, "your note will be protested, and your credit destroyed." "How much will that cost?" said the Indianian. "Dollar and a half," tremulously answered the merchant. "Then, look here, old feller, just include that amount in the note, and pay it for me when you get the note protested."

Number of Words.—The number of good English words found in use by good writers could hardly fall short of 100,000. But we knew these mainly as we knew Greek, as book words, and not as the language of speech. Even if a man was able on extraordinary occasions to bring into use in wordy battle half of that number, he generally contented himself with far fewer. Each individual used in his daily life a repertory of words to some extent peculiar to himself—one which would furnish a key to his private history. Few scholars used as many as 10,000 English words; ordinary people not more than 3,000. In all Shakspeare there was not more than 15,000 words; in all Milton, 8,000. Of the Egyptian hieroglyphics there were but 800, and it was said that the vocabulary of the Italian opera was scarcely greater.—*Professor Marsh.*

☞ An old washerwoman once would hang her clothes to dry on the railings of a church, and after repeated prohibitions from the churchwardens, she at last came out with the following burst of eloquence:—"Lord bless ye, sir, ye wouldn't a go an' take the bread out of my mouth, would ye! 'sides, sir, *cleanliness comes next to godliness*, parson says."

A HOOSIER IN SEARCH OF JUSTICE.

[See Article.]

Agricultural.

DAMP STABLES.

A damp stable produces more evils than a damp house; it is there we expect to find horses with bad eyes, coughs, greasy heels, swelled legs, mange, and a long, rough, dry, staring coat, which no grooming can cure. The French attribute glanders and the farcy to a humid atmosphere, and it is a fact that in a damp situation we find these diseases most prevalent: when horses are first lodged in a damp stable, they soon show how much they feel the change; they become dull, languid and feeble, the coat stares, they refuse to feed, and at last work they cut their legs in spite of all care to prevent them—this arises from weakness; and while some of the horses catch cold, others are attacked by inflammation of the throat, the lungs, or the eyes; most of them lose flesh rapidly, and the change produces most mischief when it is made in the winter season. Horses in constant and laborious employment must have good lodgings and kind treatment, but where the stables are bad, the management is seldom good, and it is no exaggeration to say, that hundreds of valuable horses are destroyed every year by the combined influence of bad stables and bad management. And although excessive toil and bad food have much to do in the work of destruction, every hostile agent operates with most force, where the stables are of the worst kind.

Stables should always be erected on dry ground, or that which will admit of perfect draining, with the surface a little sloping. Stables built in a hollow or on marshy land, are always damp, and when the foundations are sunk in clay, no draining can keep the walls dry; the dampness will follow up the walls from the deepest foundation. It is true that damp stables may be rendered less uncomfortable, by strewing the floor with sand or saw-dust, and in some cases, a stove-pipe might be made to pass through the stable near the floor, but such stables are liable to frequent and great alterations of temperature at every change of the state of the atmosphere. Some of the means usually employed against dampness in dwelling-houses might be adopted in the construction of stables, so as to prevent the walls from absorbing the moisture of the soils, such as a foundation of whinstone to the surface of the ground, covered with a coat of Roman cement or a sheet of lead; or the foundation may be sunk so low as to admit of its being laid in coal-dust or other any substance which does not absorb water; and, although precautions of this kind may sometimes prove salutary, they ought not to be trusted to where a dry, airy, healthy situation can be obtained; frequently whitewashing the walls with lime seems to have an influence in removing moisture and keeping them dry. The owner of a damp and uncomfortable stable often wonders why so many of his horses catch cold; "there are always some of them coughing," now if he were to make that stable his abode for four-and-twenty hours, he would have but little to wonder at. Large stables are objectionable, and have nothing to recommend them but cheapness in the erection, so that when it is more important to have a cheap than a healthy stable, a large one may be indulged in; the saving in the end, however, may eventually prove a loss, if the builder of the stable be the owner of the horses. A very large stable cannot easily be ventilated; it requires a lofty roof to give any degree of purity, and contagious diseases once introduced into such, spread rapidly and do extensive mischief before they can be checked.

Protecting Trees from Mice.—T. A. Adams, of Plattsburgh, New York, says in the Country Gentleman that he has tried the following application with great success:—Take one gallon soft-soap, one pound Scotch snuff, one pound sulphur, and one teacupful of newly slacked lime. Put the above into a kettle. Make it scalding hot. Stir it so that it will mix well. Apply it just before winter, with a partly worn brush. Put it on a little warm, and paint the trunk with it from the roots up three or four feet.

The same gentleman uses a swab, dipped in a pailful of hot, soft water, in which a quart of soft-soap has been dissolved, to destroy caterpillars on fruit-trees. He has used this, too, with great success, he says, for many years.

Forest Leaves.—The early part of winter, after there has been a fall of snow, is the best time to procure leaves from the woods. They are then compact, and can be gathered with half the labor, and twice the quantity loaded. A four-pronged dung fork is all that is necessary with which to gather and load. The fork should be run carefully under the leaves, and not through them to clog the fork, and they can be loaded rapidly. They are a valuable manurial material for the hog-pen or cow-yard. —*Germantown Telegraph.*

WHAT CAUSES CORNS IN THE FEET OF HORSES?

The question has frequently been asked me, "What are the causes of corns in the feet of horses?" As the question is one of considerable interest to many of your readers, I will endeavor to explain the most frequent causes. It is not unfrequently that the exciting cause can be traced directly to the influence of improper shoeing; in fact I may say a very large majority of cases are so caused. The first and by far the most frequent cause is contraction of the heels, which, in almost every case, is caused by our present erroneous mode of shoeing. In the first place, the smith bevels the shoe from without inwards, so that when secured to the foot, it prevents the natural expansion of the hoof, as it is impossible for it to expand up these inclined planes. When the weight of the animal is thrown upon it, it will be observed that the foot rests in a concavity, which, resisting the natural expansion of the hoof, gradually forces the heels inwards; and, to save a little trouble, the smith frequently hastens the process of contraction by cutting away the bars of the foot, thus weakening the quarters very considerably. These things are altogether wrong. If the bars were preserved sound, and the shoe made with a level bearing, we would seldom find a horse troubled with corns.

Another cause is making the shoe too narrow at the heels, causing unnatural pressure and bruise on that part of the sole between the bar and crust of the foot. When thus caused they are readily removed by cutting well out and applying some of the caustic applications, and the widening of the shoe. If caused by contraction, the cutting process and caustic applications are proper, with the additional trouble of restoring the natural elasticity of the hoof, which can best be done by poultices, and a proper hoof ointment, and applying a shoe beveled slightly outwards from the last nail-hole. The shoe should be hammered, but not twisted, as is sometimes done by the smith to save a little labor: the smith generally not regarding his extra labor as paid for. Better for you to pay him two prices and have the work done properly.

Corns are the cause, in most cases, of sprung knees. The horse, in order to relieve the heels from pressure, throws his weight mainly on the toe, thus relaxing the tendons and suspensory ligament of the leg, contraction of which naturally follows. As a proof of this assertion, examine for yourselves the feet of sprung-kneed horses, and you will find a majority, if not four-fifths of them, with corns.

When the feet are not contracted, take pains to keep them so by level shoeing, and preserving the elasticity of the hoofs. By a little attention to these matters, much suffering will be prevented, as well as time and money saved. —Dr. Jennings, *in Ohio Farmer.*

HINTS ON CLEARING WOODLANDS

While fully endorsing the repeated protests of the Agriculturist against the universal *destruction* of forest trees, it is to be admitted that there are times when woodlands should be *cleared*. A farmer may keep, on an average, one-sixth of his land permanently in timber, and yet clear off a portion every ten or fifteen years.

It is often recommended to cut out only the old and decaying trees in a wood-lot, leaving the younger to grow and fill their place. But experience has now pretty well shown that the best way is to cut off the entire growth at once, clean and smooth, and then let the trees sprout up again from the roots, or from new planting. In cutting out large trees, the smaller are inevitably broken or injured, and, in the comparative shade, few young trees spring up. It is believed that a greater amount of fuel can be got in a given time from an acre of land entirely cleared at once than from one merely culled of its large trees. It has been found that wood-lots should be cut over once in fifteen to twenty years. For the two or three years next after cutting, the lot should be fenced in, to prevent cattle from browsing down the young shoots. Care should be taken also to prevent fires from spreading into such lots. Land so managed will yield from eighteen to twenty cords of good wood per acre at each cutting.

It is important to cut trees close to the ground, whether the land is to be permanently cleared up or only stripped for the time of its trees. The best wood is often nearest the earth. If the field is to be tilled, teams can work better among low stumps than high ones; and if the trees are to grow up again, the sprouts will grow more vigorously from short stumps than long ones, and be less likely to be blown off at the base by the wind.

Now then, in this month of December, is the best time for doing this part of farm-work. Now, while the snow is light, and the cold not intense, the trees can be cut closer to the ground than when the snow is deep, and the small limbs and brush can be more easily gathered and saved.—*Cor. American Agricul't.*

Net Weight of Hogs.—The following table we find in several of our Kentucky exchanges:

At this season the following table for determining the net by the gross weight of hogs may be useful to dealers in pork. It is based upon the Kentucky rule—that is, for first one hundred pounds gross, deduct twenty-five pounds; for the second one hundred pounds, subtract twelve and a half pounds, and for the third one hundred pounds deduct six and a fourth pounds. All over three hundred pounds is calculated as net:

100	gross will net	75	200	gross will net	162
105	do	79	205	do	167
110	do	83	210	do	174
115	do	88	215	do	176
120	do	92	220	do	181
125	do	96	225	do	185
130	do	101	230	do	190
135	do	105	235	do	195
140	do	110	240	do	200
145	do	114	245	do	209
150	do	118	250	do	214
155	do	124	255	do	218
160	do	127	260	do	223
165	do	131	265	do	228
170	do	136	270	do	232
175	do	140	275	do	237
180	do	143	280	do	242
185	do	149	285	do	246
190	do	153	290	do	251
195	do	158	295	do	256

Artificial Guano.—The Cotton Planter of Alabama, furnishes the following:—

We have been favored with the following recipe for making a fertilizer, which our friend who furnished the recipe, assures us is equal to the best Peruvian guano, at one-half the cost. We have not yet tried it, but give it to our readers for what it is worth:—

1.	Wood ashes	3 bushels.
2.	Rich earth from the swamp,	20 "
3.	Fine bone dust	3 "
4.	Land plaster	3 "
5.	Nitrate of soda	40 pounds.
6.	Sal ammoniac	23 "
7.	Sulphate of soda	20 "
8.	Sal magnesia	10 "
9.	Common salt	10 "

Nos. 1, 2, and 3 mix together; Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 dissolve in five pails of water, when add to the mixture Nos. 1, 2, and 3, then mix like mortar; when thoroughly mixed add No. 4, which will bring it into a dry state. Apply three or four hundred pounds to the acre. We are assured by those who have tried it, that it is equal in its effect to the best guano.

Large Sale of Mules.—The Hon. A. G. Talbott, of Boyle, Ky., recently made a sale of 200 yearling mules, to Messrs. Jones and Bentley, of the same county, for $30,000. The lot is represented to be extra fine—about three-fourths of them mares.

Useful Receipts.

Christmas Plum Pudding.—A pound of suet, cut in pieces not too fine, a pound of currants, and a pound of raisins stoned, four eggs, half a grated nutmeg, an ounce of citron and lemon-peel, shred fine, a teaspoonful of beaten ginger, half a pound of bread-crumbs, half a pound of flour, and a pint of milk; beat the eggs first, add half the milk, beat them together, and by degrees stir in the flour, then the suet, spice, and fruit, and as much milk as will mix it together very thick; then take a clean cloth, dip in boiling water, and squeeze dry. While the water is boiling fast, put in your pudding, which should boil at least five hours.

Another way.—One pound of flour, one pound of plums, stoned, one pound of currants, one pound of suet, half a pound of bread-crumbs, half a pint of milk, six eggs, one wineglassful of brandy, a quarter of a pound of sugar, a little nutmeg, ginger, and grated lemon-peel. Boil in a mould eight hours.

To Preserve Apples.—As this year has been particularly unproductive of the usual fruits that housekeepers have depended upon for sweet-meats, etc., we suggest one very excellent substitute. To twelve pounds of pared sweet apples, take seven pounds sugar and one pint of best vinegar.

Put the sugar and vinegar together in the preserving-kettle, and after boiling and clearing put in the fruit and let it boil till transparent, after which remove carefully to the jar.

Put into the syrup either green ginger, lemon, or cloves, and let it boil till thick enough to suit, and turn over the apples. This is quite equal to pears, and will not foment if put in a cool room.

To Clean Paint.—Smear a piece of flannel with common whiting, mixed to the consistency of common paste, in warm water. Rub the surface to be cleaned quite briskly, and wash off with pure, cold water. Grease spots will in this way be almost instantly removed, as well as other filth, and the paint will retain its brilliancy and beauty unimpaired.

To Make Lard Candles.—To every eight pounds of lard, add one ounce nitric acid, and the manner of making it as follows:—Having carefully weighed your lard, place it over a slow fire, or at least merely melt it; then add the acid, and mould the same as tallow, and you have a clear, beautiful candle. In order to make them resemble *bona fide* tallow candles, you have only to add a small proportion of pure beeswax.

Mustard Poultices.—Make a bag the size required of book muslin; and, after mixing equal quantities of mustard and linseed meal (or a larger proportion of the former, should the case require it) in a basin, with boiling water of a proper consistency, fill the bag; and, sewing it up, apply it to the part affected, covering it with a handkerchief, or piece of linen. The patient will find this a very clean and comfortable plan. After it has been kept on as long as desired, it only remains to remove it, and lay on a piece of old cambric handkerchief, no rubbing nor washing being required. The poultice is perfectly efficacious; and all that is necessary afterwards is, to dust it with hair-powder for a day or two.

☞ That which I have found the best recreation, both to my mind and body, whensoever either of them stand in need of it, is music.—*Bishop Beveridge.*

The Riddler.

SHAKSPERIAN ENIGMA.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

I am composed of 75 letters.

My 16, 2, 13, 5, 10, 3, 10, 2, 13, 5, 10, 3, was a cry of distress from King John.

My 19, 26, 1, 12, 14, 36, narrowly escaped the loss of his eyes at the hands of Hubert.

My 67, 6, 8, 40, 45, 7, 27, 41, was a madman.

My 30, 29, 59, 33, 20, 25, 58, 17, was a sage who uttered my whole.

My 50, 32, 56, 11, 26, 24, 56, 68, 4, 52, 59, 42, 34, 28, 42, 8, 8, 46, 44, 42, 40, 49, were two ladies who nearly drove poor Falstaff crazy.

My 18, 15, 38, 21, 14, 67, 73, 57, 70, 40, 75, 65, 71, 22, 74, 41, is a prominent character in Richard the Third.

My 66, 35, 48, 73, 75, 75, 66, 47, 54, 49, 50, 65, 66, 41, is jealousy personified.

My 60, 37, 34, 46, is called "devil" by Shakspeare.

My 60, 69, 75, 71, 73, 55, is a sad example of the effects of ambition.

My 56, 43, 61, 51, 73, 16, 20, 39, 63, 42, 53, 73, predominated in Shylock's character.

My 64, 16, 4, was a merry boon companion.

My 31, 23, 3, 62, 49, 50, 44, 49, 71, 72, is one of the plays of Shakspeare.

My whole is a wise maxim from the play of Hamlet, which, taken with the caution that follows, is worthy to be written in letters of gold.

LOCAL CHARADE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Down at the willow's root seek ye my first,
Sweet with clematis and cardinals red.
Here come the homeward kine slaking their thirst,
Here grow bright lilies and white arrow head.

In the mists of Loch Lomond my second is found,
And numbers unnumbered attest to his fame.
For who has not heard at the world's farthest bound
Of Rokeby's proud lord and of Avonall's dame.

Go visit my whole when the storm driven waves,
In tempest and fury dash wild on the shore;
When beauty and fashion its peacefulness crave,
And the health which its breezes will surely restore.

Boston.

RIDDLE.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

I am composed of 8 letters.

Erase my 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and transpose, and I am a part of man.

Erase my 1, 3, 4, 8, and transpose, and I am manufactured from iron.

Erase my 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and I am a mode of conveyance.

Erase my 1, 4, 7, 8, and transpose, and I am a bad character.

Erase my 1, 5, 6, 8, and transpose, and I am a color.

Erase my 1, 2, 3, 8, and transpose, and I am a quadruped.

Erase my 4, 5, 6, 7, and I am what all wish to get clear of

Erase my 1, 4, 7, 8, and transpose, and I am used in making railroads.

Erase my 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and transpose, and I am used in making iron.

My whole is the name of a county in Maryland.

Delhi, Ill. DAY BOOK.

REBUS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

My 1 is a county in Illinois.
My 2 is a country.
My 3 is a river.
My 4 is a river in Prussia.
My 5 is a river in France.
My 6 is a lake in Russia.
My 7 is a town in Portugal.
My 8 is a town in Brazil.
My 9 is a town in Illinois.

The initials of these will form the name of a town in England. AMERICAN.

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

A, in a scuffle, seized on ½ of a parcel of sugar plums; B caught ¼ of it out of his hands, and C held on 3-10 more; D ran off with all A had left, except 1-7, which E afterwards secured slyly for himself; then A and C jointly set upon B, who, in the conflict, let fall ¼ he had, which were equally picked up by D and E, who lay perdu. B then kicked down C's hat, and to work they all went anew for what it contained; of which A got ⅓, B ⅛, and D 2-7, and C and E equal shares of what was left of that stock. D then struck ⅓ of what A and B last acquired, out of their hands: they, with difficulty, recovered 5-8 of it in equal shares again, but the other three carried off ¼ apiece of the same. Upon this, they called a truce, and agreed that the ⅓ of the whole left by A at first, should be equally divided among them; after this division it was ascertained that E had 2,087 more plums than A. How much of the prize, after this distribution, remained with each of the competitors?

Venango Co., Pa. ARTEMAS MARTIN.

CONUNDRUMS.

☞ What part of a play do drinking men always like the best? Ans.—The *fine ale* to be sure.

☞ What two letters of the alphabet represent yourself and myself? Ans.—Why *U* and *I*.

☞ Why is it pleasant to be late at a ball? Ans.—Because it is *past time*!

☞ When is a plaid dress like an apple? Ans.—When it's a tart un.

☞ Why is the letter D like a sailor? Ans.—Because it follows the C.

☞ Which five names in early Scripture indicate the commencement of corporal punishment? Ans.—Adam, Seth Eve, Cain Abel.

☞ What is the difference between a good soldier and a fashionable lady? Ans.—One faces the powder, and the other powders the face.

ANSWERS TO RIDDLES IN LAST.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA—A Subscriber to the Saturday Evening Post. ACROSTICAL ENIGMA—Germantown. CHARADE—Harvest, (Ha! vest). CHARADE—Hamlet. RIDDLE—ANAGRAMS—Brontes, Vesta, Prometheus, Minerva, Proserpine, Tantalus, Somnus, Achilles, Nestor, Ganymede. ARITHMETICAL QUESTION—Each of the fathers left $1,995, of which Samuel drew $1,050, Benjamin $945, Barbara $1,045, and Susannah $950; thus giving Samuel and Susannah $2,000, and Benjamin and Barbara $1,990.